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SATURDAY, APRIL 22, 1871.

PRICE 3D.



" THE WHITE COCKADE "- (FROM THE PICTED T) A COLMOORE, IN THE DUDLET GALLERY.

LONDON WATER AND LONDON MILK.

"Two blacks won't make a white." That is a settled point in popular faith. But will two bad-or indifferentthings make a good one if mingled? That is a question more difficult of solution; at all events, some people seem to be of opinion that such a compound may be good enough for Londoners; and, no doubt, similar loose notions obtain in more places than the metropolis. London milk, even as it comes from the cow, cannot well be of first-rate quality, seeing that London cows do not live and feed under exactly natural conditions. London water, again, is not of the purest; indeed, some of it is exceedingly impure. Here we have two fluids, each faulty in itself; and yet Mr. Hancock and others his confrères in the milk line think that by mixing these elements together they produce a wholesome

Mr. Hancock confesses that he keeps a supply of "Simpson"—that is, water—always on hand at his establishment; he confesses, further, that he mixes said "Simpson," in certain unknown but we may assume liberal proportions, with the lacteal produce of his cows, such as that is; and yet he asserts that he "sends out the best quality of London milk." If Mr. Hancock's milk, manufactured for consumption in the wealthy and fastidious West-End, be of the "best quality," we wonder what can be the character of the compounds vended under that name in the poor and non-fastidious regions of the east and south. In both these quarters of this metropolis the water is of the foulest; the milk yielded by resident cows is of the poorest; and when the two are mingled, with the addition of "annotta," chalk, and other substances, the result must be a veritable abomination. By-the-way, lest the uninitiated in the secrets of the milk trade should be frightened by that word "annotta," and fancy it to be, like "Simpson" for water, a euphemism for calves' brains or some other still more disagreeable ingredient, it may be well to mention what this substance really is. "Anotta," "annotta," or "annotto," for the word is spelt all these ways, is a species of red, or yellowish red, dyeing material, prepared from the seeds of a tree (Bixa orellana) belonging to the tropical regions of America. It is used for colouring cheese, butter, &c.; but what purpose it serves mixed in milk, to be sold as milk, we do not know. Will some candid Hancock of the milk-pail inform us?

Adulteration, under the most favourable conditions, is vile; but, when the adulterating substance is itself adulterated, the product must be altogether villanous. And yet the citizens of the British metropolis, and of other towns as well, are expected to consume, and to pay for without a murmur, most diabolical concoctions sold under specious names; while the Hancocks who systematically swindle their customers think themselves terribly illused men if they be swindled in turn. Mr. Hancock complains that his man Minter cheated him; and probably he did; for is it not natural that, after spending years perhaps in cheating the public for the benefit of his employer, Mr. Minter should deem it no great harm to do a little cheating on his own behalf? The transition is easy from swindling for another to swindling for one's-self. For our part, we think Minter the least culpable of the two; and, if we were on the jury that shall try Minter for cheating Hancock, we should be inclined to return a verdict of "Served Hancock right." At all events, after having disposed of the man, we should greatly like to proceed to the trial of the master; and should certainly make him pay pretty smartly for his much too intimate relations with "Simpson."

This matter of the adulteration and impurity of articles sold as food and drink is assuming graver aspects every day. There is scarcely such a thing as getting a pure article in the ordinary course of things nowadays. Foulness and adulteration prevail everywhere; and the public are not only cheated in quality-they are cheated in quantity also. Modern tradesmen seem to be utterly devoid of conscience; swindling is the rule all round. Deficient weights and measures are used wherewith to vend adulterated goods; and, though the facts are notorious, there is no effective check upon the abominable practices almost universally prevalent. A shopkeeper may go on for years committing a double swindle upon his customers, and thereby pocketing large profits; even if at last he be found out, he is merely called upon to disburse a trifling mulct in the shape of a fine, which bears no proportion to his ill-gotten gains; and is then free to resume his old course again! We must change all this, and make fraud "in the way of trade" punishable by personal as well as by pecuniary penalties. We must substitute imprisonment for fines, or add the one to the other, in offences of this nature; and we must inflict thorough exposure instead of tacit condonation after conviction. Hancock, while invoking the law against his man Minter, owns that he is himself a swindler. Why should Minter be punished and Hancock go free? And the name of Hancock, is it not legion? Are there not Hancocks everywhere, and engaged in every trade? Mr. Bruce, in his new Licensing Bill, proposes to institute an order of official inspectors for public-houses. Let him carry his principle a little further. and give the community the protection of thorough inspection of all commodities of ordinary consumption, and impose real, and not merely nominal, penalties on those who wax rich by systematic and habitual swindling. If the Home Secretary will rise to the height of this great duty, he will confer an invaluable boon upon the nation and win for himself a most enviable name in our social history. We recommend him to make the effort in real earnest; and If he do, no fear but he will succeed.

The Government, we see, are making an effort to secure for the inhabitants of the metropolis a sufficient—that is to say, a continuous, instead of an intermittent-supply of water. A bill with this object has been introduced into Parliament this Session under official auspices. So far, so well; but something more is needed here too. Some care should be taken to secure at least reasonable purity of quality as well as abundance of supply in the water furnished to the inhabitants of London. What the metropolitan water is, Professor Frankland tells us in the report quoted elsewhere; and though things seem to have mended a little of late, there is still ample room for improvement. Let the quality of London water be reformed; and then, if we must take "Simpson" in our milk, we shall at least have the satisfaction of knowing that we are imbibing a tolerably innocuous element. At present there is no such guarantee.

"THE WHITE COCKADE."

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THE excellent little picture from which our Engraving is taken is one of that admirable collection in the Dudley Gallery of which a notice recently appeared in our "Fine-Arts" column. Simple as the story is, Mr. Luxmoore has succeeded in giving it interesting expression, and the dangers of that Georgian period, when the wearers of this emblem on their great three-cornered hats were liable to all the dangers that are associated with a desperate cause and its established opponents, are well suggested. "The were hand its established opponents, are well suggested. "The White Cockade" has already received marked attention, and visitors to the gallery will remember it among the paintings looked at and lingered over.

A SMART SHOCK OF EARTHQUAKE was distinctly felt along the coast of Argyle last Saturday evening, a few minutes before eight o'clock. The houses in Kilcreggan, Blairmore, Duncon, and other coast towns were considerably shaken, and in some instances crockery was shaken to the ground by the vibration. At Roseneath one house is said to have subsided about a foot, and the waters of the Gareloch are said to have presented the appearance of a boiling cauldron during the shock.

The THIRATENING SCHISM IN GERMANY.—The opposition to the

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THE THREATENING SCHISM IN GERMANY.—The opposition to the dogma of the infallibility of the Pope (says the German Correspondent of Saturday) is very strong in the south of Germany. The Bavarian Government has refused the Archbishop of Bamberg the "placet" without which the proclamation of the decrees of the late Vatican Council is that State is illegal. The reasons given for this decision are that the Ministry cannoconsider those decrees of a purely theological character, but that they think them calculated to bring about an essential alteration in the relations of Church and State, and to be fraught with danger for the political and social basis of the Government. Three professors of the University of Munich, who were absent when the address to Dr. von Döllinger was signed, have publicly announced their approval of it. His Majesty the King of Bavaria has given many proofs of his sympathy for the great scholar and the movement which he leads, especially during the religious services of Easter. The Augsburg Allgemeine Zeitung is able to contradict the reports of the Ultramontane press that Bishop Hefele of Rottenburg has reconsidered his position. It has good authority for asserting that he still finds it impossible to reconcile his conscience to the new dogma, and the greater part of his clergy agree with him on this point. A Munich telegram says that the King of Bavaria has resolved, under all circumstances, to retain Dr. von Döllinger in his position at the Chapel Royal, whether he is excommunicated and suspended from his other offices or not. The Roman Catholic journal Vateriand warns the King that he incurs the risk of being included in the sentence of excomrannication, and adds that all who attended the recent acti-infallibility meeting are ipso facto excommunicated.

RUGBY SCHOOL.—The following minute was manimously agreed upon at a meeting of the trastees, held at Rugely, on the 11th ins

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RUGHY SCHOOL.—The following minute was unanimously agreed upon at a meeting of the trustees, held at Rugby, on the 11th inst., to inquire into the complaints referring to the discipline of the school-house:—"The trustees, having had their attention called to certain complaints of want of discipline in the school-house, met this day to consider the same. Having carefully investigated the case, and taken evidence thereon, they are of opinion that the irregularities complained of are not such as to call for any special interference on their part or to cause alarm to the parents of the boys, being only of a character which must at times be expected in a large school. They think that no case has been made out in the matter of the complaints of the Sixth Form, and they consider the grievances alleged in two other cases referring to the discipline of the school-house have been sufficiently explained. They think also that the Under Masters should never confer with the boys, not even with the Sixth Form, on points of school discipline without the knowledge of the Head Master. The trustees feel it now their duty, in justice to the Head Master, to impress upon the Under Masters generally the necessity, for the good of the school, of giving to the Head Master not only a nominal but cordial co-operation." The trustees present at the meeting were:—The Earl of Warwick, Lord Leigh, the Bishop of Worcester; the Right Hon. Sir C. B. Adderiey, M.P.; Mr. C. N. Newdegate, M.P.; Mr. W. Bromley-Davenport, M.P.; Colonel North, M.P.; the Rev. C. W. Holbech, and Mr. E. J. Shirley.

CATCHING A GHOST.—For some time past the miners working in the

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CATCHING A GHOST.—For some time past the miners working in the pits at Abersychan and Cwmnantder, near Pontypool, have been so terrified by subterranean noises and the stories of extraordinary "sights" told by some (these phenomena being attributed to supernatural agency), that the matter had assumed a very serious aspect, and the Ebbw Vale Company have lost kundreds of pounds in consequence of the men positively refusing to work in these pits, and seeking employment elsewhere. Reasoning with the miners on these matters was altogether useless. It was considered that some of the noises were of perfectly natural origin, and arose from the settling down of strata and so forth; and, as to others, a suspicion arose that they were wilfully caused by some waggish or malicious persons employed in the pits. Mr. Joseph Green, the mineral agent, and Mr. Evan Jones, the contractor, set a close watch, and the result is that they caught the ghost, and took him alive to Pontypool Police Court on Saturday. The "ghost" turns out to be a tall, intelligent-looking young man named John Harvey, a hanlier, in the employ of Mr. Evan Jones. The singular nature of the matter caused the court to be crowded. The defendant was charged, before the Rev. J. C. Llewellen and C. J. Parkes, Req., with wilfully misconducting himself in his employ, on Feb. 17. Mr. Greenway appeared for the prosecution, and Mr. Gibbs, of Newport, for the defence. On the case being called on, Mr. Gibbs rose, and, on behalf of his client, almitted that on one occasion he did slam a door, and tendered an humble apology to the Bbbw Vale Company and to Mr. Evan Jones, hoping that the case would not be pressed further. Mr. Greenway, on behalf of the company and Mr. Jones, accepted the apology, and asked the permission of the doors had been left open, gas might have accumulated and the lives of all in the pit sacrificed. The Eench allowed the case to b

NEW PEERAGES.—A Parliamentary return shows what new peerages of the United Kingdom have been created since the beginning of 1830. From that date to July, 1834, forty-three peerages were created, Earl Grey being Prime Minister; but seven of them were promotions of peers already in the House of Peers to a higher rank. Lord Brougham is the first in this list of new peers. Five peers were created in Sir R. Peel's short term of office in 1835. Lord Melbourne then became Prime Minister, and fity-two list of new peers. Five peers were created in Sir R. Peel's short term of office in 1835. Lord Melbourne then became Prime Minister, and fifty-two peerages were created between April, 1835, and the end of August, 1841, nine of them being promotions of peers already in the House. Sir R. Peel then returned to power, and seven peers were created between the latter part of 1841 and July, 1846; two were only promotions of peers in the House. In this list stands the name of his Royal Highness Albert Edward, created Prince of Wales on Dec. 8, 1841. From 1846 to February, 1851, Lord J. Russell being Prime Minister, sixteen new peers were created; five were new dignites bestowed upon peers already in the House, including the Prince of Wales, created Earl of Dublin. In 1852 three new peers were created, the Earl of Derby being Premier. In 1856-8 twelve were created, the Earl of Derby being Prime Minister; one of them was but a promotion. In 1859-64, with Viscount Palmerston again Prime Minister, eleven new peerages were created, two of them being promotions. In 1859-64, with Viscount Palmerston again Prime Minister, thirteen new peerages were created, two of them being promotions. In 1866, Earl Russell being Prime Minister, ten new peerages were created, or of them being promotions. In 1866, Earl Russell being Prime Minister, ten new peerages were created, or Derby again Prime Minister, eight new peers were created. In 1868, Mr. Disraeli being Prime Minister, the new peerages were created, one being the promotion of a peer. In 1863-70. Mr. Gladstone being Prime Minister, fourteen new peers were created one being the promotion of a peer. In 1863-70. Mr. Gladstone being Prime Minister, fourteen new peers were created one being the promotion of a peer. In 1863-70. Mr. Gladstone being Prime Minister, fourteen new peers were created one being the promotion of a peer. In 1863-70. Mr. Gladstone being Prime Minister, fourteen new peers were created one being the promotion of a peer. In 1863-70 Mr. Gladstone being Prime Minister,

Foreign Intelligence.

FRANCE.

Fighting still goes on at Paris. Artillery duels and musketry neounters occur night and day, each side claiming to have obencounters occur night and day, each side claiming to have obtained advantages which the other as regularly denies. On the whole, however, the Versailles troops appear to have the best of it. The most important affair this week was the storming of the Chateau Bécon by the Versaillais, on Monday, which was a smart affair; and has been followed up by fresh successes of the same troops, who are said to hold the whole peninsula of Gennevilliers, including the village of Asnières. This peninsula of Gennevilliers has been the main theatre of hostilities from the time when the insurgents, taking the initiative, attempted to march upon Verinsurgents, taking the initiative, attempted to march upon Verinsurgents. including the village of Asnières. This peninsula of Gennevilliers has been the main theatre of hostilities from the time when the insurgents, taking the initiative, attempted to march upon Versailles by Courbevoie, Nanterre, and Rueil. Driven from all these points, chiefly by the fire from Mont Valérien, the insurgents were compelled to fall back on the bridge of Neuilly; but this position, too, they eventually lost, and continued their retreat to the enceinte, or line of the city walls, at Porte Maillot. They, however, stood behind their barricades in the Grand Avenue on the Paris side of the bridge, commanding most of the zone of ground between the river and the walls. They thus held positions at Billancourt, Boulogne, Neuilly, Sablonville, Villiers, Courcelles, Levallois, and Clichy, and even beyond the river, while on the Gennevilliers peninsula they occupied Asnières, Bois Colombes, and Colombes. Between their batteries at Asnières, and those of the Versailles troops at Courbevoie the firing was incessant, and, under the protection of their cannon, the hostile forces ventured forth into frequent skirmishes, with hardly any definite purpose and with results which each side alternately claimed as victories. The commanders of the Versailles forces were greatly inconvenienced by the insurgent batteries of Asnières. These stood in their way when they planned an attack on Montmartre by Gennevilliers and St. Ouen, and they, besides, commanded their position at Neuilly Bridge, and hindered their advance upon Porte Maillot. Determined to attack those batteries, the Versailles troops advanced or Monday from Argenteul and Bezons into the Gennevilliers peninsula, reared new batteries at Gennevilliers, and from this point and from Courbevoie opened so sudden and violent a fire upon Asnières that the insurgents' and Bezons into the Gennevilliers peninsula, reared new batteries at Gennevilliers, and from this point and from Courbevoie opened so sudden and violent a fire upon Asnières that the insurgents' fire slackened, and an attack upon their positions became practicable. The attack was made, not on Asnières, but on the Château of Bécon, a spot helf way between Asnières and Courbevoie, on the river, and near the Isle de la Grand Jatte. Here the insurgents had their advanced posts, and it was from these that they were driven by one of the Versailles regiments, headed by Colonel Davoust, Duke of Auerstadt, grandson of the old Marshal of the First Napoleon, the Prince of Ecknübl. The victorious troops did not at once follow up their success; and the insurgents, rallied by Dombrowski, endeavoured, by repeated charges, to recover lost ground. But in the afternoon the Versailles troops drove their enemies from Bois Colombes and from Colombes, and pressed close upon them at Asnières. Still pressing on, in the night—if we may trust Versailles accounts—they gained possession of that village and established their artillery at the railway station in command of the bridge, thus not only forcing their surgents across the river, but cutting off their retreat, causing them way station in command of the bridge, thus not only forcing the insurgents across the river, but cutting off their retreat, causing them very grievous losses, and throwing them into the direct confusion. On the southern side the Versailles troops have been cannonading the forts of Issy and Vanves from Meudon, Clamart, Châtillon, and the whole range of those heights; but they seem to have made but little impression on the forts themselves. Could they even take the forts, they would find themselves in front of the enceinte on the south, as they are on the west, the only advantage being that from Issy, if they could take it, they might sweep with their fire the whole line of the ramparts from the Point du Jour all along Auteuil and Passy. But were even the war carried up to the city walls, were even the wall broken through and overcome, the victorious troops would still find themselves confronted by the internal defences—by those long, wide, straight lines of new Boulevards which Baron Haussmann threw open to allow free play for the artillery of the Government against possible insurplay for the artillery of the Government against possible insurgents, but which now the insurgents hold with cannon against all comers, and across which they have everywhere constructed barri-cades, earthworks, and trenches, besides a variety of other warlike contrivances of the most formidable character.

The Communists themselves are now beginning to talk of re-conciliation with Versailles, and M. Félix Pyat has formally laid down the basis on which it may be established. His principal conditions are, the maintenance of the Republic; communal rights for Paris and all other French towns; re-election of the

Commune and the Assembly, and an amnesty on both sides.

The Commune has decreed that all arrests must immediately be notified to the Delegate of Justice, who will interrogate the individual arrested, and decide whether he is to be kept in custody or set at liberty. If this notification be not made within twenty-four hours the arrest will be considered an arbitrary one, and those who effected it will be prosecuted.

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Lieutenant Lullier, who was recently arrested and imprisoned by the Communal authorities, now appears to be restored to favour, as he has been appointed commander of the gun-boats of the Science.

The National Guards of the 248th Battalion pillaged the Belgian Legation on Sunday. The outrage is thus referred to in the (Red) Journal Officiel:—"A number of National Guards belonglegation on Sunday. The outrage is thus referred to in the (Red) Journal Officiel:—"A number of National Guards belonging to the 248th Battalion have dared to invade the Belgian Legation in the Rue Faubourg St. Honoré, and have violated the sacred rights of hospitality due by France to foreigners, and diplomatic immunities, respected by all civilised people. An inquiry has been opened. Several of those who are culpable have been arrested, and it will not be long before the others will be. They will be tried immediately before a council of war." The same journal publishes the following decree:—"The payment of debts of every kind incurred up to the present and now due is to be effected within three years, commencing on July 15, 1871. The total amounts due will be divided into twelve equal instalments, which will be payable quarterly, commencing at the same date. Every debtor who, profiting by the delay granted by the present decree, shall during the period have diverted, alienated, or made away with his assets, thus defrauding his creditor of his legal rights, shall be considered, if engaged in commerce, as guilty of fraudulent bankruptcy, and, if not engaged in commerce, as guilty of fraudulent bankruptcy, and, if not engaged in commerce, as guilty of swindling, and will be liable to prosecution either by his creditor or by the public prosecutor."

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By the statistics which are published it seems that the supply of live cattle in the Paris market has fallen off to such an extent that the capital would again appear to be in danger of starvation. This result is owing to the fact that the dealers are unwilling to send their cattle to market lest they should be seized by the insurgent Government. The price of provisions is again rising

It is stated that many inhabitants of Neuilly, having been unable to escape in time, remain incarcerated in their cellars, which they occupied for several days, with the battle raging over their heads.

The Municipal Bill, brought forward in the Assembly at Versailles as "urgent," and which in the course of a protracted de-bate has been so much tranformed that it now neither resembles the original project of the Government nor of the Committee, has the original project of the Government nor of the Committee, has at length been voted by 499 against 18. Notwithstanding this great majority, the measure, admitted to be only provisional, is very unsatisfactory to all parties, and in the special point of view of the pacification of Paris it is disastrous. The "rurals" stick to unmitigated universal suffrage in the provinces as a means of ensuring their domination over the towns, and they have mutilated universal suffrage in Paris giving this breamleted constructs. ensuring their domination over the towns, and they have mutilated universal suffrage in Paris, giving thinly populated quarters a voice equal to those of populous ones. Last Saturday the Finance Minister, M. Pouyer-Quertier, brought in his amended budget of expenditure for 1871. It was not proposed, he said, to make any change in the war estimates, the materials for fixing the amount being wanting. There would be a saving of 107,000,000 francs in other departments. It was impossible to estimate the revenue

until order was restored.

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M. Louis Blanc and three other members now stand almost alone among the old Republican party in the Assembly as defenders of Liberal principles. Not one of the papers has a defenders of Liberal principles. Not one of the papers has a defenders of Liberal principles. Not one of the papers has a defenders and others may be summarily arrested as suspected foreigners and others may be summarily arrested as suspected form entering Paris or Versailles. The persons and prevented from entering Paris or Versailles. The persons are exposed to gross indignities of walking by themselves are exposed to gross indignities from the police.

SPAIN.

A Royal decree has been issued fixing the elections in Porto Rico to the Senate and the Chamber of Deputies for June 20. The Permanent Committee of the Cortes has ratified the election of the Duke of Montpensier without discussion.

GERMANY.

The bill on the Constitution of the German empire was read for the third time on the 14th inst., all except seven members voting in favour of the measure.

Dr. Dollinger was excommunicated, on Tuesday, by the Arch RUSSIA.

bishop of Munich.

Advices from Odessa announce that serious acts of persecution, chiefly originating with persons of Greek nationality, have been perpetrated against the Jewish inhabitants of that town. The disturbance had to be quelled by the troops at the point of the bayonet, and several persons were wounded. No shot was fired. A number of Jewis' stores have been plundered. About 1000 arrests have been made. SWEDEN.

The Storthing has rejected the new bill for a modification of the union of Sweden and Norway by 92 against 17 votes. THE UNITED STATES.

The High Commission is reported to have signed a convention for the settlement of the Alabama claims. The contracting parties agree to a rule that a neutral is responsible for depredations comagree to a rule that a neutral is responsible for depredations committed on a friendly Power by a vessel fitted out and manned at a neutral port. This rule is to be enforced in treaties hereafter, and the contracting parties agree to use their influence to embody it in international law. The Alabama claims, under this rule, are to be submitted to a commission of five, one each to be appointed by President of Switzerland, and the King of Italy. The commission is to meet at Washington within six months after the ratification of the Convention to decide the responsibility of mission is to meet at Washington within six months after the ratification of the Convention to decide the responsibility of England in each case and to award damages. A final decision must be made in two years from the first meeting. No decision to be binding on either contracting party unless agreed to by one of the Commissioners representing them. If the Commissioners be unable to decide any claim, it is to be referred to another board of three—one each appointed by the President of the United States, the Queen, and the Emperor of Russia—to meet within six months after the adjournment of the first commission.

JAPAN.

Japan is reported to be in a very unsettled state, the feudal nobility having been the cause of more than one disturbance. At Sinshiu the Central Government wished to recall a quantity of Sinshit the Central Government wished to recain a quantity or local paper money without giving an equivalent, which roused the people. Their ringleader having been beheaded, they rose, burned the town, reduced the Prince's castle, and crucified the two subordinate officers, the Prince himself having escaped. Troops sent against them were beaten; and the Mikado can ill spare any more. The district of Bungo has been the scene of another rising against the authorities; and too heavy taxes and unfair levies of ground rent are the alleged cause. A great assembly of the daimios is summoned at Jeddo to discuss measures.

AUSTRALIA.

The home Government is said to have warned the colonies that a filibustering expedition might be expected to attack them, from The colonies have in consequence taken precauti

The proposed duty on breadstuffs has been rejected by the Sydney Legislative Assembly.

The Launceston and Western Railway, the first railway contructed in Tasmania, was formally opened by his Excellency the Governor in February. The line is forty-three miles in length, it connects Launceston with the rich agricultural district of Deloraine, and its whole cost is £450,000.

LONDON INTERNATIONAL EXHIBITION OF 1871.—At the state opening, on May I, the chief municipal authority of each city and town of the United Kingdom, the chairmen of chambers of commerce, the masters of city companies, the council of the Society of Arts, the council of the Royal Horticultural Society, the official staff, reporters for the Exhibition, and members of committees will be invited to take part in the ceremony and to inspect the fine-art and industrial galleries; after which the exhibition of musical art will take place in the Royal Albert Hall, under the general direction of Sir Michael Costa, when will be performed a chorale, representing Italian music, composed and conducted by Chevalier Pinsuti, and to which Lord Houghton has furnished words; a psalm, representing French music, composed and conducted by M. Gounod; an overture, representing German music, composed by Dr. F. Hiller; a cantala, representing British music, composed and conducted by Mr. A. Sullivan; and "God Save the Queen," by the chorus and audience.

An HISTORICAL COTTAGE.—A cottage interesting from associations.

and "God Save the Queen," by the chorus and audience.

An HISTORICAL COTTAGE.—A cottage interesting from associations with personages of past times is disappearing from the banks of the Thames at Richmond. Built in the seventeenth century by a relative of King Charles II., it became the property of the accomplished Lady Diana Beauclerk, who decorated its walls with ber brush and pencil. Later on the Misses Bury (who are buried in the adjoining churchyard) made it their favourite summer retreat, and Horace Walpole found one of his greatest pleasures in ferrying over from Strawberry-hill and visiting them amid its bowers of roses. After being in the possession of Elizabeth, Duchess of Devonshire, the friend of Gonsalvi, it passed into the hands of the Hon. George Lamb, Lord Melbourne's brother, and was a constant neeting-place of his with Lord Holland and other members of the Whig party. Sir Charles Barry became a frequent guest there, and, seeing the walls were beginning to show signs of decreptude, gave its present owner, Sir Augustus Clifford, a beautiful Italian design for its reconstruction, which he is now carrying out for his son, Colonel Spencer Clifford.

HOW PANIC CRIES FOR WASTEFUL TAXATION ARE GOT UP.—A

Sir Augustus Clifford, a beautiful Italian design for its reconstruction, which he is now carrying out for his son, Colonel Spencer Clifford.

How Panic Crites for Wasteful, Taxation are Got up.—A contemporary says:—"Comparatively few persons in this country are really troubled by apprehension of a foreign invasion; fewer still allow such apprehensions as they may feel to affect, in the smallest degree, their daily arrangements. So far as we can remember, not a single free and open election in England and Scotland has turned upon the supposed necessity of increasing our armaments of defence. Of the so-called panic which rose out of the Franco-German war, evidence of its spontaneity and universality is totally wanting. No doubt a certain section of military efficers availed themselves of the unequal contest between Germany and France to give widespread publicity to their opinions that, army for army, this country would be utterly unable to cope with either of the belligerent Poaers. This is usually the commencement of what is called a panic. It is followed up by letters to the daily press, generally frinted in largest type, from armourers, army agents, and a large class of men who draw their gains from army expenditure; denouncing the niggardly habits of the Government, and calling for a more lavish expenditure of public money. The ball thus set rolling is kept on foot by all those artificial methods of agitation which what may be called the ruling class know so well how to carry on with effect. For a month or two the newspaper press is filled with correspondence and editorial comments upon the imminent perit to which the country is exposed. Thousands of claqueurs who invariably repeat, and sometimes exaggerate, the opinions of their favourite journals, discuss the topic, as they go to and from their ordinary business, with a warmth that would seem to imply the deepest interest in the immediate practical disposal of it. There is abundance of emoke, but not much fire—a great deal of noise, but no great hational e

LIBERTY, "AS IN FRANCE."

THE Commune in Paris and the Government officials at Versailles seem equally to carry things with a high hand. While the former arrest and imprison citizens, and "requisition" their property, on very slight pretences, or simply because they want "persons" as hostages, and "goods" as sustenance—or the means of procuring it—M. Thiers appears to permit great liberties to his subordinates. As specimens of how things are managed in Paris and Versailles, we select a few incidents reported in the Times and Daily News respectively:— Times and Daily News respectively :-

IN PARIS.

In Paris, M. Felix Pyat, the other morning, received with extreme courtesy a party of gentlemen, who called to protest against the outrage committed upon the Maison Gallifet, and professed himself willing to do anything in his power in the way of compensation. He declined to return Madame Gallifet's correspondence, which might, according to rumour, compromise members of the Imperial family; but, at the same time, he declared that it should be held sacred and be stowed away in a safe place. As for the other contents of the house, little compensation can be made. The National Guards pillaged it from roof to cellar, drinking or carrying away all the contents of M. Lafitc's binsvaluable wines of every vintage—with the exception of a quantity of excellent madeira, which they pronounced to be "pale ale turned sour," and only fit for "la canaille." A gentleman living in the Place Vendôme returned home last night, and found his apartment reduced to a wreck, his wine and cigars stolen, and his warkprobe turned out were the floor. in the Place Vendome returned home last night, and found his apartment reduced to a wreck, his wine and eight stolen, and his warbrobe turned out upon the floor. His maid-servant, who was half dead with fright, related that some half dozen Nationals had watched his departure, and had forthwith requisitioned all that he possessed, in the name of the Commune. He immediately walked off to the Etat Major, on the other side of the square, forced his way into the presence of General Henri, and abused that individual in no measured terms. The General was very civil, shrugged his shoulders, and professed himself "désolé," offering to have the delinquents shot at once, if "Monsieur" could lay his hands upon them. Of course, he could do nothing of the kind, and so the matter was obliged perforce to drop.—

Times' Correspondent.

of the kind, and so the matter was obliged perforce to drop.—
Times' Correspondent.

The people who reign over Paris care but little for the lives of the men whom they send into battle. The other day the isole's were forcibly requisitioned, and sent to work on the ramparts. Everybody was asking the meaning of this word isole'. By dint of explanations it appeared at last that these isole's are the unarmed men who are taking no part in the defence of the Commune. The Commune prefers isole's to enemies, and, consequently, is eager now to disarm all men who refuse to join its ranks, and to turn them into isole's. Citizen Lacord, delegate of the Central Committee for the 6th Arrondissement, discovered a sure plan for multiplying the active defenders of the Commune by threatening to send before a court-martial any man who refused to serve. This proceeding appeared more dangerous than useful, by threatening to send before a court-martial any man who refused to serve. This proceeding appeared more dangerous than useful, and the Commune has disavowed Citizen Lacord, but with all the consideration required by his position as delegate of the Central Committee. In the 6th Arrondissement, as elsewhere, the Commune will content itself with making isolés repair the breaches in the southern forts. At the same time, however, a court-martial is being established to "act with despatch and vigour" in "exceptional cases which require immediate repression."—Ibid.

AT VERSAILLES.

"exceptional cases which require immediate repression."—Ibid.

AT VERSAILLES.

"I was writing in a café, with three or four friends about me, when my attention was called, by people running to the windows, to the curious sight of wounded men, very cleverly placed in hammecks, balancing each other across the back of a mule. I exclaimed, 'I should much like to know whether these men were wounded in any affair last night of which we have as yet heard nothing.' One of my friends, a young officer of a disbanded corps, out of uniform, kindly said, 'I will find out for you directly,' and he went into the street. Five minutes later an Englishman said to me, 'Your friend has got into trouble: he went up to the convoy of wounded, apparently to ask a question, and was laid hold of by half a dozen soldiers, who clutched him by the back of the neck, and held his hands behind him. I never saw a man so brutally used in my life. They dragged him to the guard-house, where he is now a prisoner.' This was pleasant news about a gentleman who had volunteered to do me a service, and whom I was expecting to breakfast! My first inpulse was to rush to the guard-house and testify to the perfectly harmless mission of my friend. But en route I met a wary old barrister of the Assize Courts, who dissuaded me. 'The old Bonapartist police,' he said, 'has now full swing in Versailles. Their system is, whenever they got a man in custody, no matter on what pretext, to keep him as long as possible, in the hope of raking up something against him. If you go to the lock-up house you will certainly not get your friend out, and may very likely be detained yourself. It is very undesirable for you to let the police know that you are so much as on speaking terms with anybody who has been arrested, as you would be a marked man. Wait an hour or two. The best of all solutions would be for your friend to emancipate himself by telling his own story. Failing that, get some deputy to speak for him. But be very careful as to the deputy you apply to. Any member f at this brutality, was imprudent enough to say, 'Let the old man alone; you see he is wounded.' Thereupon a cry arose, 'O ho! you are a friend of the Commune!' and he was set upon and taken off to prison, as above described. While there, he was interrogated every quarter of an hour by different people as to his pursuits, the names of his friends, and what business he had at Versailles. His person was searched, and he was marched out to usually to his lodgings, where a people is to find the control of course a fruit less than the control of the course of the course of the control of the course o custody to his lodgings, where a perquisition (of course a fruitless one) was made, and then he was taken back to prison. But for the lucky intervention of the deputy, he would certainly have been detained in custody all night."—Daily News' Correspondent.

THE PILLAGE OF NOTRE DAME.—In reply to a statement that Notre Dame THE PILLAGE OF NOTRE DAME.—In reply to a statement that Notre Dame had been pillaged, and that stores of arms had been found there, the sacristan has written to the Petite Presse to say that, on investigation, the guards found nothing in the shape of arms. The detachment commenced loading a carriage belonging to the church with valuables; but a Captain, whose name he does not know, proceeded to the Committee, and one of its members (Cittzen Lavalette) came and had everything returned to its place; after which the sacristan, having satisfied himself that nothing was missing, signed an account of the proceedings. The doors were then sealed up, and a picket of guards have been in charge of the place since.

a picket of guards have been in charge of the place since.

"MUCH ADO ABOUT NOTHING."—The Church Herald, remarking on the Good Friday party at Balmoral, says: "There was a banquet, presided over by the commissioner of the Royal estates; a ten party, at which the Royal housekeeper sat at the head of the table; and, more shameful still, a ball at night, 'in the new hall of the castle,' where dancing was kept up 'until early on Saturday morning." And all this most scandalous desceration, all this gross violation of Christian decency, it is proclaimed, 'by command of the Queen'—the Queen who boasts of being 'defender of the faith' and 'supreme governor' of a branch of the Catholic Church, which regards Good Friday as the most awfully solemn day of the whole Christian year, and enjoins upon all who belong to it the sacred obligation and duty of its religious observance as a day of fasting and abstinence, penitential section.

THE PARIS COMMUNE AND THE GENEVA

THE PARIS COMMUNE AND THE GENEVA CONVENTION.

THE International Society for Aid to the Wounded is dissolved by order of General Cluseret. The nature and aims of the International Society are well known. It sprang from a congress held at Geneva, at which most of the Continental States were represented, and the practical result of which was that famous so-called Geneva Convention, at which the rule was laid down that henceforth in belligerent armies attendants on the wounded and ambulances should be neutralised. The International Society was instituted in Paris in 1867, at the time of the Universal Exhibition, where it began to exhibit its stores and to collect abundant subscriptions. All civilised nations took a pride in participating in and associating themselves with this society. When the war of 1870 broke out it already possessed considerable resources, and its stores, as well as its staff, had an importance which often made up for the deficiencies in the medical service of the army. It sent its ambulances to all the battle-fields, saved an infinite number of wounded, and, during the siege of Paris, displayed an activity to which the Press and the Government often did justice. It was established at first in the Palais de l'Industrie, where it housed its stores; afterwards its head-quarters were removed to the Palace of the Elysée. Later it rented the whole of the Grand Hôtel, and installed there the largest stationary ambulance that has ever been seen in France; but as soon as it had done so it returned to the Palais de Later it rented the whole of the Grand Hôtel, and installed there the largest stationary ambulance that has ever been seen in France; but as soon as it had done so it returned to the Palais de l'Industrie, and set up in the Champs Elysées some very well-arranged buildings, where all hygienic conditions were carefully attended to. When the civil war broke out the society was to a certain extent broken up and its staff dispersed. However, the director of the society, Dr. Chenu, who was well known to the English army in the Crimea, contrived in a few days to get together a sufficient staff to complete his melancholy duties. It was the International Society which received the first wounded Federals on the day of the famous sortic en masse. Since then it has multiplied its efforts, and has always been equal to its task. So many services rendered ought to have placed it beyond the reach of the detestable acts of which it has just been made the victim.

It was on the morning of the 14th that the "execution" was levied. A battalion of 500 Federals began to surround the Palais del'Industrie and to guard the eutlets, as if it were feared that the hospital attendants would attempt a "sortie en masse." M. Roussel, who called himself the delegate of General Cluseret, demanded to speak with the director. The director, on being told, refused to obey the orders of Citizen Roussel. During all the going and coming, the Federals had entered the palace, had invaded the offices and the ambulance-rooms, threatening, with insults and oaths, to shoot the doorkeepers, and turning out of doors, with blows from the butt-end of their muskets, the hospital sisters who had the care of the wounded. A detachment occupied the ground floor, where the provisions are kept, and the wine began to flow. Citizen Roussel, who was already losing command over his men, required all the stores and provisions to be handed over to him, to which the superintendent only consented under the express reservation that he yielded to force and that an inventory should be drawn up exculpating him. This was done accordingly. An inventory was first taken of the money-chest. It contained only about 60r. Three millions had been concealed some days ago. The cellars contained about 700,000f. worth of wine. Movable stores, such as linen, litters, beds, and stretchers, all valued at 1.800.000f. were then sent to the delegate, as well It was on the morning of the 14th that the "execution" some days ago. The cellars contained about 700,000r. worth of wine. Movable stores, such as linen, litters, beds, and stretchers, all valued at 1,800,000f., were then sent to the delegate, as well

all valued at 1,800,000f., were then sent to the delegate, as well as sixty-six valuable horses.

When, after laying violent hands upon the stores, the delegate attempted to appropriate the staff, matters became more involved. He tried to force the surgeons to continue their work; they refused, declaring that, the society being dissolved, they should for the future consider themselves free; that they would only continue their care of those wounded whom they had already begun to treat, and that on the condition that they might remove them elsewhere. A warrant was issued against one of them, but he took refuge in the fact of his being a foreigner, and the men of the Commune durst not insist. At this moment the ambulance work is completely disorganised. The subordinates, warned by their chiefs that the Geneva Convention was violated by the Commune, refused to go to the field of battle where the National Guards might be dying without help. They are trying hard to form chiefs that the Geneva Convention was violated by the Commune, refused to go to the field of battle where the National Guards might be dying without help. They are trying hard to form ambulance companies, but in the novel situation in which the Communist army will soon find itself placed no one is in a hurry to render assistance to a work which that army has already made dangerous, and which becomes still more so from the bad habit the National Guards have of shooting from behind the shelter of the ambulance carriages. In fact, the most grievous part of what is now happening is not so much the pillage of wine and stores belonging to the society as the violent rupture of the Geneva Convention. The insurgents are not strictly belligerents; they were, however, treated as such after the fight, when they were taken prisoners and their wounded cared for. The Germans will probably not treat them thus if ever they come into action with the army of the Commune. But by destroying the work of the Geneva Convention, the Federals have put themselves beyond the pale of international neutrality; their ambulance carriages are liable to be considered as engines of war, and certainly will be so whenever the soldiers of the Commune use them for shelter. The consequence of these odious and foolish actions has already been felt. It is very difficult to recruit any staff for the carriages; and, as the fighting in the suburban villages—as Neuilly, for example—is almost continual, the wounded National Guards are no longer cared for.—Parisian Correspondent of the Times. cared for .- Parisian Correspondent of the Times.

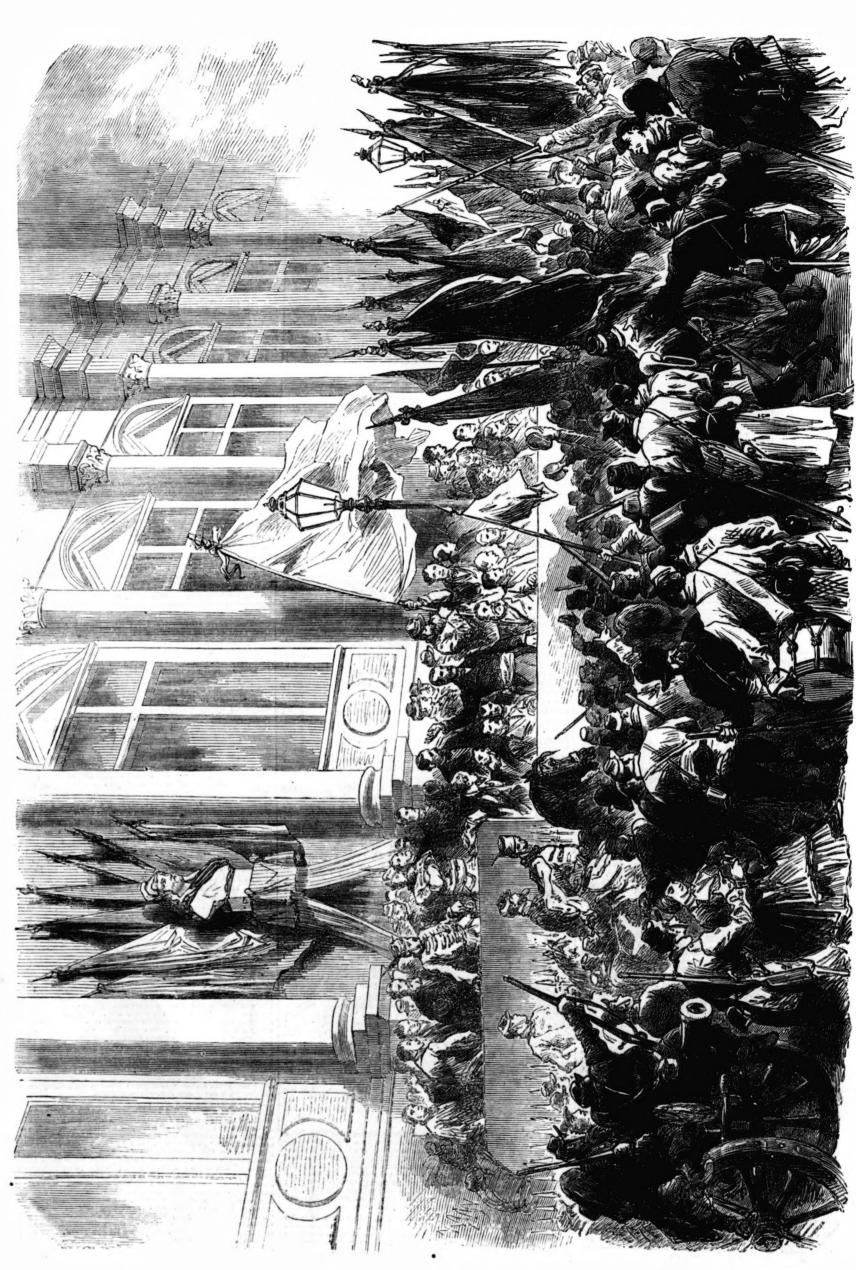
LORD NAPIER OF MAGDALA.—Lord Napier of Magdala is as much in his element on horseback now as when, twelve years ago, he hunted the Mahratta soul out of Tantia Topee. The other day, when at Cachar, he rode over to Monierkhal, to inspect the scene of the alleged misbehaviour of the 4th Native Infantry detachment, and back again the same day, a distance of fifty miles. And such roads! The picture given of his Lordship at Debrooghur will recall the chief vividly to the minds of those who know him, and especially of those who have seen how he comports himself when "roughing it" on the march or in the field. One hour he is reviewing a regiment, and putting the men through drill of which they would find the use if called out on duty; then personally seeing the men at target-practice, and, with his own steady hand and accurate eye, testing the capabilities of the smooth-bores with which the frontier troops are armed; then acting as umpire in a sham fight; then in the hospital, speaking with each patient in turn, inquiring into their cases, and saying a few cheering kindly words to such as were in a low state; then receiving the players and the patients and the state of the receiving the players and the such as were in a low state; then receiving the players and the such as were in a low state; then receiving the players and the such as were in a low state; then receiving the players and the such as were in a low state; then receiving the players and the such as were in a low state; then receiving the players and the such as were in a low state; then receiving the players and the such as were in a low state; then receiving the players and the such as were in a low state; then receiving the players and the such as were in a low state; then receiving the players and the such as were in a low state; then receiving the players and the such as were in a low state; then the such as were in a low state; then a such as a sumple of the such as a sumple of th patient in turn, inquiring into their cases, and saying a few cheering kindly words to such as were in a low state; then receiving the planters, and extracting from them all the information he could regarding Cachar; then entertaining the station at dinner and a ball in the evening, and off next morning for a thirty-mile ride.—Times of India.

INTOLERANCE AT THE ANTICONES.

entertaining the station at dinner and a ball in the evening, and off next morning for a thirty-mile ride.—Times of India.

INTOLERANCE AT THE ANTIPODES.—A correspondent at Sydney sends an account of a prosecution for blasphemy which has caused much commotion in the colony. In January last a Mr. William Lorando Jones, who is described by his friends as "a sculptor and member of the Royal Society of Arts," entered into an argument one Sunday afternoon with an open-air preacher in the "public domain" at Paramatta. Mr. Jones undertook to prove that the Old Testament was "an immoral book, not fit to put into the hands of women and children," and spoke of Moses as "a robber and a murderer," and as "a cruel old wretch;" and o tother characters in the Bible he expressed his abhorrence in similar terms. For this he was indicted at the quarter sessions on a charge of blasphemy. Two local preachers and the police-sergeant of the town were the witnesses as to Jones's utterance of the blasphemous words, the constable testifying, however, that he spoke of God with reverence, and of Jesus Christ as "a good man." The jury, without a minute's consultation, returned a verdict of "Guilty," and Mr. District Court Judge Simpson immediately sentenced the prisoner to be imprisoned for two years', with hard labour, and to pay a fine of £100. This severe sentence was given, to use the Judge's own words, "to check infidelity." Jones (the correspondent hears, has aiready been cropped, and put into the ordinary prison dress, with the prison brand. Public meetings have been held in Sydney during the week to consider the case, and a petition to the Governor for the remission of the sentence is now being signed. Dr. A Ecckett, a brother of Mr. Gilbert A Beckett, presided at one of these meetings. The Unitarians, headed by their pastor, the Rev. James Pillars, are the most active in the matter. Mr. Fillars put the case very pointedly in his own chapel by asking, "Why he himself was still at liberty while Mr. Jones was in gaol?"









INNER LIFE OF THE HOUSE OF COMMONS.-NO. 398.

THE ORDER-BOOK.

On the morning after the House of Commons broke up for the Easter holidays every member received a copy of "the Notices of Motions and the Orders of the Day which now stand in the Order-Book of the House of Commons," and we, too, per favour, got a copy of this programme. It is a voluminous document, comprising fifty folio pages of printed matter. But is this the programme of the Session? Oh, no! it is merely what is now in the Order-Book. There is, doubtless, a number of bills still in preparation, or, as we may say, on the anvil, which, when they shall have been hammered into shape, will be presented to the House. We have at present about a hundred bills on the Order-Book—probably a hundred more will be brought in before the end of the We have at present about a hundred bills on the Order-Book—probably a hundred more will be brought in before the end of the Session. Then, as to the notices of motion, in a hundred fertile heads resolutions are fermenting, and will ultimately resolve themselves into definite shapes and get upon the paper; and so it is quite clear that during the next three months Parliament will have plenty of work upon its hands. Meanwhile, let us look at the notices of motion now in the book, or rather a few of them, such as we may deem worthy of comment.

LEWIS ON THE LESSONS.

Mr. J. D. Lewis, the intrepid member for Devonport, gives notice that, on going into Committee on the Prayer Book (Tables of Lessons) Bill, he will move that clergymen ought to have the privilege of reading such portions of the Old and New Testament of Lessons) Bill, he will move that dergyhen out the Testament at morning and evening prayers as to them may appear most suitable. At present they can only read what they are ordered to read. The bill before the House will not liberate them from this law. Mr. Lewis would let them read what they may deem the most suitable. And why should they not? Surely, the impressiveness of "the lesson" depends much upon its suitability to the times and circumstances. On Sept. 4 last the news of the fall of Sedan, the capture of M'Mahon's army, and the surrender of the Emperor, reached a great number of places in this kingdom just before the people went to church or chapel; and doubtless the Dissenting ministers selected lessons in harmony with the excited feelings of their congregations; but the clergy of the Establishment were obliged to read the prescribed lesson of the day. Bythe-way, the Old Testament lessons for that day were not out of harmony with the solemn events which had just occurred, as anyone may see if he will turn to the 2nd and 3rd chapters of the Prophet Joel. But it might have been quite otherwise. Prophet Joel. But it might have been quite otherwise.

RETROGRESSION.

On going into Supply, on April 21, Mr. Cavendish Bentinck will move, or will have moved by the time this Paper shall have got into our readers' hands, the House to take a step backwards. In 1856 the Conference assembled at Paris declared that "privateering is and remains abolished;" and that "a neutral flag covers ground, goods, with the expention of contraband of "privateering is and remains abolished;" and that "a neutral flag covers enemy's goods, with the exception of contraband of war." Great was the joy in the commercial world when those articles of the Declaration of Paris were published. But Mr. Bentinek would have her Majesty's Government withdraw from these articles, and go back to the old barbarities. It took long years to achieve this grand reform; and now, as with a stroke of a pen, Mr. Bentinek would destroy the fruit of all the labour of those long years. But the motto of the English Parliament is "Vestigia nulla retrorsum"—no stepping back. Foolish man! He might as well try to turn a spring tide in the Thames as to get the House of Commons, containing now far more merchants and manufacturers than it did in 1856, to listen to his fatuous counsel.

THE ARMY BILL.

The progress of the Army Regulation Bill is to be hindered by such a mass of amendments that an inexperienced stranger looking at them as they stand upon the paper would deem the passing of the bill impossible. Colonel Sir William Russell alone has five folio pages of amendments to propose, and the battle will be, no doubt, long and fierce; but we hear that the Government is resolutely determined to pull the measure through; and, as the Liberal party is on this subject united, we have no doubt that Mr. Cardwell will conquer. But the fight will occupy so long a time that several other big measures must be dropped.

BILLS IN DANGER.

BILLS IN DANGER.

We should say that the prospects of the Lord Advocate's Scotch Education Bill, the amendments to which occupy twenty-four pages, and must be in number nearly 500, look "fishy." Nor can we imagine that Mr. Bruce can hope or mean to attempt to get his licensing bill, or Mr. Goschen his Local Government Rating Bill, passed. These are all very great measures, and experience has taught us that it is next to impossible to get more than two great measures through the House in one Session. Rest, then, perturbed and scared brewers, distillers, and publicans, for it is all but certain that this terrible avalanche will not overwhelm you at over great measures through the Rouse in one Session. Rest, there, perturbed and scared brewers, distillers, and publicans, for it is all but
certain that this terrible avalanche will not overwhelm you at present. Indeed, as the bill is now, it cannot pass; and here let me
notice that the public—not the intemperate portion of the said
public, but the temperate—ought surely to oppose one of the
proposals in this bill: we mean that to dispose of licenses by
tender. Why, if this proposal were to become law, the great
brewers in and around provincial towns would ultimately get
every licensed house into their hands, and utterly sweep away all
the small independent publicans who brew and sell their own
beer, and also those who buy their beer of distant brewers—Bass,
Allsopp, and others. Fancy a pedestrian, hot, dusty, and
deliquescent, after a long and toilsome march across mountains and fells, arriving at a well-known inn, and calling for "a
glass of pale"—preferable to him, under the circumstances, to
Château Margeaux or the world-renowned Johannisberg—being
told that a great brewer has bought the license of the house, and
that now there is nothing to be had but said big brewer's muddy,
ropy beer! But we need not fancy it, for it will never come to
pass.

DISARM!

Sir Wilfred Lawson, on May 2, will move an address to her Majesty praying her to direct her Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs to move the European Governments to reduce their armaments. A very good motion this; but, surely, it is ill-timed. If this address should be carried, one would like to be present when Lord Loftus, our Ambassador at Berlin, presents our Foreign Secretary's polite request to Prince von Bismarck that he will urge his Imperial master to consent to "a mutual reduction of armaments." The simulated gravity of our Ambassador, scarcely able the while to keep down the rebellious corners of his mouth; the cynical expression of Bismarck's large eyes, the quiet irony of his smile, and the general irony of the situation, would be a sight worth seeing. But neither will this occur. Common-sense has not quite departed from the House of Commons. has not quite departed from the House of Commons.

ARM ALL!

Mr. O'Reilly—commonly called Major O'Reilly, he having been Major in the Pope's army—will, on May 2, move "That, in the opinion of this House, to place the country in a state of permanent security, it is necessary to establish our military system on the basis of recognising the obligation of all citizens to defend their country, and of fitting them by training for the discharge of their duty." The gallant Major's meaning is not easily discernible in this cloud of verbiage. But, from certain signs observed by us, we concluded that this is the outcome of a strange heterogeneous gathering of Whigs, Tories, and Radicals held at the Westminster Palace Hotel on the 23rd ult.; and that the gallant Major means by "fitting the citizens by training" that the boys in all cur rate-aided schools shall be trained to, or, as the circular which convened the meeting put it, "instructed, in arms."

SHADOWS OF COMING EVENTS.

SHADOWS OF COMING EVENTS.

On May 9 Mr. Miall will bring on his motion that it is expedient that the English and Scotch Churches should be disestablished, and it is said that a hundred members will follow him into the lobby.

Theu, on some future day—date not yet fixed—Mr. Somerset Beaumont will move for leave to bring in a bill to relieve the Lords Beaumont will move for leave to bring in a bill to relieve the Lords Spiritual hereafter to be consecrated from their attendance in Parliament. We like this way of putting it: the attendance of Parliament. We like this way of putting it: the attendance of the Lords Spiritual in Parliament is not a privilege which they wish to retain, but a burden of which they are anxious to be relieved. Mr. Beaumont last year brought in a similar bill, and got 102 members to vote for it. He will, probably, get more this year. Mr. Miall's proposal and Mr. Beaumont's bill the old Conservatives will probably receive with scornful mirth; but thus, some ten years ago, they received Mr. Miall's motion to disestablish the Irish Church, and now it is disestablished; and does not history, "teaching by example," warn us that, possibly, these movements may be the projected shadows of coming events? The Prime Minister will oppose both Mr. Miall and Mr. Beaumont with ingenious rhetoric, and perhaps passionate eloquence; but he may, nevertheless, live to see both these forecasted events realised, and help to realise them.

THE CAPTAIN.

Lord Henry Lennox means, some day, the date of which he has not fixed, to call the attention of the House to the circumstances under which her Majesty's ship Captain was accepted by the Admiralty and subsequently sent to sea. The reason why Lord Henry has not stated when he will bring the matter before the House is probably this:—He hopes that Mr. Childers may before the close of the Session return to the House. Very courteous and proper this, and, we may say, characteristic; for a kinder-hearted, more courteous gentleman than Lord Henry we have not in the this, and, we may say, characteristic; for a kinder-hearted, more courteous gentleman than Lord Henry we have not in the House. There will be a great gathering of members when this matter comes before the House; for, though six months have gone since this strange, unprecedented, disastrous event occurred, it is not forgotten; and, further, both the Liberal Government and the late Conservative Government are implicated; and moreover. late Conservative Government are implicated; and, moreover, much party spirit and passion have been excited.

THE SORROWS OF MR. WHATMAN, ETC.

This is the programme—or, rather, the salient parts of it which we have thought to be worthy of comment. Now a few words about the proceedings of Tuesday night. The first performer that night was Mr. Whatman, the member for Maidstone. Mr. Whatman's voice is rarely heard in the House; and when we saw that he was going to draw the attention of the House to the railways of Canada we wondered what could inspire the hon. member to break his wonted silence to discourse upon such a subrailways of Canada we wondered what could inspire the hon-member to break his wonted silence to discourse upon such a sub-ject. But the reason why soon oozed out. Mr. Whatman invested money in the Grand Trunk line, and lost it; and now comes to the House to pour into its ears the long tale of all his woes. Bad taste that, Mr. Whatman, if you could but see it. Mr. Whatman got nothing by his motion but condolence for his losses from the Under Secretary for the Colonies, which, however, evoked no sym-pathy from the House, but, on the contrary, a burst of laughter, which must have been rather galling to Mr. Whatman. Mr. Monk, the member for Gloncester city, son of the late well known Bishop the member for Gloucestercity, son of the late well known Bishop Monk, if our readers care to know the fact, rose when Mr. Whatman had retired from the scene. Mr. Monk discoursed for a Whatman had retired from the scene. Mr. Monk discoursed for a time, in his curious, affected, and somewhat drawling tones, upon the commutation of pensions; and when he had cleared out of the way, Mr. Reed, of Hackney, brought on his motion to liberate rural postmen from the burden of Sunday labour, which, to the amusement of the House, he called Sabbath-day labour. Mr. Reed did his work well, as he always does. But why does Mr. Gladstone reply? There sits Mr. Monsell, the Postmaster-General, and there he has sat all the time Mr. Reed spoke, taking notes, and at intervals snuff; and no doubt he meant to reply to Mr. Reed. Why, then, does the Prime Minister rush in thus impetuously and take the work out of the Postmaster-General's hands? We can Why, then, does the Frime Minister rush in thus impetuously and take the work out of the Postmaster-General's hands? We can only answer, it is a way he has. But surely Mr. Monsell must have felt that he was snubbed, and been mortified to have his lambent light, which he had so carefully trimmed, thus unceremoniously snuffed out.

SIR SPENCER ROBINSON'S CASE-LORD HENRY LENNOX THEREON

And now the event of the night-to wit, the indictment of the And now the event of the night—to wit, the indictment of the Prime Minister for dismissing Sir Spencer Robinson from the post of Lord of the Admiralty. Lord Henry Lennox, who was for a year or more Secretary to the Admiralty, undertook this onerous duty. Lord Henry is clever, can work hard, and speaks fluently; but it struck us, as he laboured somewhat heavily through his work, that he was hardly strong enough for the grave task which he had undertaken to perform. But then we must remember great difficulties confronted him, whichever way he turned. It was Mr. Childers who instigated Mr. Gladstone to dismiss Sir Spencer Robinson. But Mr. Childers was not present, and, according to the gentlemanly etiquette which happily dismiss Sir Spencer Robinson. But Mr. Childers was not present, and, according to the gentlemanly etiquette which happily governs the proceedings in the House, could not be censured. Further, unquestionably the loss of the Captain had much to do with the differences between Mr. Childers and Sir Spencer; but that is too great a subject to be meddled with on this occasion; and so Lord Henry, thus cribbed, cabined, and confined, had to pick his way as constelly circumspective and work in a pick his way as carefully, circumspectly, and warily as a benighted pedestrian does across a moor. It is hardly wonderful, then, that the noble Lord, under such circumstances, did not make

an effective speech.
Though it was Mr. Gladstone who was impeached, Mr. Goschen, the First Lord, answered Lord Henry. Meanwhile, the Prime Minister went away to dinner. But neither did Mr. Goschen speak with his accustomed ease and effectiveness. It struck us as we listened to him that the First Lord was hampered by a sense that his case was not so good as he could wish it to be. Very much like special pleading, as it seemed to us, was a great part of his speech. He appeared to be acting the part of a lawyer defending a client of whose innocence he is not confident, without the lawyer's art of making by ingenious rhetoric the worse appear the better reason. In short, nobody spoke well in the debate. Mr. Bouverie, who followed Mr. Goschen, hesitated, and at times boggled. Mr. Gladstone, though very eloquent and angry, hit wide. Mr. Whitbread said a few words, and, if he did no more, he accounted for the inefficiency of the discussion. "We have been fighting," said the hon. member, "with foils." That is not really fighting. The man with whom we ought to fight is not here. The real question is not before the House. Lord Henry wanted to withdraw his motion—motion for a Select Committee; but Mr. Gladstone would have a division. The numbers were—For the Committee, 104; against, 163. And thus ended the business. We expected an earnest fight; we had a flasco. we listened to him that the First Lord was hampered by a sens

SOME EXTREME POLITICIANS gathered in Hyde Park on Sunday afternoon, and voted an address of sympathy with the Communists of Paris. One
of the resolutions denounced in strong terms the press of this country, set
forth the necessity for the establishment of a daily Republican organ, and
pledged the meeting to support such a paper should it be called into
existence.

pledged the meeting to support such a paper should it be called into existence.

PRIZES FOR COLLECTIONS OF ECONOMIC ENTOMOLOGY.—The Royal Horticultural Society offer the following prizes:—1. A prize of £10 for the best collection of Efitish insacts injurious to any one plant—as the oak, pine, cabbage, wheat, &c. (the choice of the plant to be left to the competitor). The insects to the shown as much as possible in their various stages of development—eggs, larva, chrysalis, and perfect insect. In judging, a preference will be given to those collections which most successfully illustrate the life-history of the insect, and exhibits the mischief done, whether shown by specimens, drawings, models, or other means. Examples of the application of drawings, models, and specimens to this purpose may be seen in the society's collection in the South Kensington Museum. 2. A second prize of £3 for the second-best collection. 3. A prize of £5 for the best miscellaneous collection of any branch of British economic entomology, similarly illustrated. 4. A second prize of £2 for the second-best collection. The collections to be sent to James Richards, E-q., assistant secretary, Royal Horticultural Society, on or before May 1, 1872, each collection bearing a motto and a separate sealed envelope, with the motto on the outside and the name of the competitor inside. The society is to be entitled to take from any of the collections sent in, whether successful or not, whatever specimens or illustrations they may choose, at a price to be fixed by the judges. The judges to have power to refrain from awarding the prizes, should the collections seem not worthy.

Imperial Parliament.

MONDAY, APRIL 17.

HOUSE OF COMMONS. HOUSE OF COMMONS.

On the House reassembling on Monday, it proceeded to the consideration of the Army Estimates in Committee of Supply, after discussing a motion of Captain Beaumont, which was not pressed, to commence the formation of a reserve for the defence of the country by men passed through the ranks of the regular Army. The vote for militia pay and allowances gave rise to considerable debate, in the course of which Mr. Rathbone moved to reduce the amount by the sum required for the additional 40,000 men; but the proposal was negatived, on a division, by 92 to 16, and the original vote agreed to.

TUESDAY, APRIL 18.

Postmaster-General. SIR S. ROBINSON AND MR. CHILDERS.

Lord H. LENNOX, in moving for a Select Committee to inquire into the causes which led to the dismissal of Sir Spencer Robinson from the post of Third Lord of the Admirally, dwelt at length upon the rervices of the gallant Admiral, and hinted, not obscurely, that he had been made a

Third Lord of the Admiralty, dwelt at length upon the rervices of the gallant Admiral, and hinted, not obscurely, that he had been made a scapegoat for the loss of the Captain.

Mr. Goschen emphatically repudiated this insinuation; and went on to explain that the removal of the gailant Admiral arose from the circumstance that after the appointment of the Construction Committee, of which Sir S. Robinson disapproved, difficulties which had previously exheted between him and his colleagues were so aggravated as to render it impossible to carry on the business of the Admiralty.

Mr. BOUVERIE expressed a decided opinion that Sir S. Robinson had been treated unjustly and ungenerously; but intimated that the gailant officer desired that his case should be judged, not by a Select Committee, but by the Honse of Commons itself. In reply to an intimation by the First Lord of the Admiralty that the Prime Missister was under the impression that Sir S. Robinson was willing to resign, he asserted that that willingness referred not to the period when Mr. Gladstone took action, but to a time after the Captain Committee should have reported.

Mr. GLADSTONE, who spoke with considerable warmth, intimated that the Government intended to treat this as a question of condidence, and to resist the motion by the "strongest steps;" and then, replying in dectail to several points raised by the member for Kilmarnock, concluded by resting the defence of his own conduct upon the ground stated by Mr. Goschenthat in consequence of the differences which had arisen at the Admiralty, it was impossible that Sir Spencer Robinson should remain in office.

Mr. WEDNESDAY. APRIL 19.

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 19.
HOUSE OF COMMONS.
The House devoted the greater portion of its sitting to the discussion of Mr. Lambert's bill to amend the Irish jury laws, by giving a majorly the right to return a verdict; and Mr. P. Taylor's bill to abolish the game laws. The former was met with a general opposition and eventually withdrawn; but the latter was pressed to a division on the order for its second reading, and thrown out by 172 to 49, or a majority of 123.

THURSDAY, APRIL 20. HOUSE OF LORDS.

HOUSE OF LORDS.

Their Lordships reassembled on Thursday, after the Easter holidays, but only sat a short time, during which the Mutiny Bill and some other bills were advanced a stage.

HOUSE OF COMMONS. THE BUDGET.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

THE BUJGET.

The CHANCELLOR of the Exchiquest made his financial statement. There was an estimated excess of £2,713,000 expenditure over revenue. The house tax, and some other sources of income, would not be available after this year. The sum of £600,000 taken this year for the abolition of purchase in the army would probably be doubled next year. What was to be done? There was no surplus revenue. The Government would not increase the national debt. He could show, indeed, a way in which, without imposing fresh burdens, they could raise upwards two millions. That was, by the abolition of exemptions. He referred to the exemption of agricultural horses, licensea in Ireland, charitable and collegiate funds, dividends belonging to foreigners residing abroad, making altogether £2,100,000. But he did not propose this, he only pointed out. Nor would it be wase to disturb the customs' duties. But there was a tax which could be touched. He alkeded to probate, legacy, and succession duties. The probate duty had many faults. It was charged on property bequeathed by will, but if a man died intestate it was charged in the proportion of three to two. The law, he supposed, was made by lawyers, who thought it right to punish men for going out of the world without a will. He proposed to abolish the distinction. The scale was anomalons. He proposed to rate all pervonal property liable as intestate on the principle of 2 per cent duty. If an Englishman had property in France he would pay legacy duty, but not probate duty, but the legacies would not pay legacy duty, but not probate duty, but the legacies would not pay legacy duty, but not probate duty, but the legacies would not pay legacy duty, and where he paid legacy duty he should pay probate duty. He proposed to another than the succession duties. The son now paid 1 per cent, as brother paid 3 per cent, the descendants of a granulfather paid 5 per cent, and persons of non consanguinty paid 10 per cent. He thought it fair to propose an increase of the successi

THE PRIVATE VIEW OF THE ROYAL ACADEMY EXHIBITION will take place on Friday, the 28th inst., and the annual banquet on Saturday, the 29th inst.

the 29th inst.

THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN IRELAND.—The Sustentation Fund of the Irish Presbyterian Church continues to make surprising progress. The committee of the Church are at present holding their quarterly meeting in Belfast, and it was reported by the convener that up to this date the sum of £20,000 had been paid into the Sustentation Fund, and that 385 congregations had not yet paid their fourth instalment, but that their contributions are expected to reach the agent by the 14th inst. Four hundred and seventy-one ministers have commuted, and the sum paid on their behalf by the Church Temporalities Commissioners amounted to £443,412, not including the bonus of 12 per cent. Some of the commutation trustees who were present having stated that the condition of the finances would warrant the payment of a bonus of £10 for the year now enced to all ministers entitled to receive it, it was unanimously resolved to declare a bonus of £10 accordingly. This is £10 over and above the old Regium Donum

REPORT OF THE WESTMEATH COMMITTEE.

REPORT OF THE WESTMEATH COMMITTEE.

THE Select Committee appointed to inquire into the state of Westmeath and certain parts adjoining of Meath and King's County, and the nature, extent, and effect of a certain unlawful combination and confederacy existing therein, have agreed to the following report :-

following report:—

"That there is at present existing within the county of Westmeath and certain adjoining portions of the county of Meath and of the King's county, an unlawful combination and confederacy of a secret nature, generally known by the name of the Ribbon Society. That this Ribbon Society has existed for a considerable length of time, and has within the last three years, as compared with those immediately preceding, increased in power and influence. That, owing to the prevalence of this society, murder and other crimes of the most serious nature have been perpetrated within the district above referred to, and that by reason partly of sympathy with the perpetrators of such crimes, and still more by within the district above referred to, and that by reason partly of sympathy with the perpetrators of such crimes, and still more by the terror created by the existence and action of the society, it has been found to be almost impossible to obtain evidence on which to bring offenders to justice. That such immunity from detection and consequent punishment has had for its results an encouragement to crime, the diffusion of a spirit of law-lessness, and a corresponding decrease of confidence in the power of the law among the peaceful members of the community. That this society, originating in the desire on the part of its members to interfere in an unlawful and violent manner in matters relating to the tenure and occupation of land, has extended the sphere of its operations, and more or less prejudicially affects other relations of life. That this society has adherents and supporters among the farming classes in the district, and some sympathisers among a certain class of small traders in the towns, but recruits its ranks chiefly from farm servants and daily labourers; and that these persons are under the control of a few individuals recruits its ranks chiefly from farm servants and daily labourers; and that these persons are under the control of a few individuals who may be looked upon as the heads of the society, and are alleged to be known as such to the local authorities. That the society, besides leading directly to the perpetration of the crimes already mentioned, has infused a feeling of terror into all classes in the district, by reason of which its objects are frequently brought about, without any overt act of violence. That the Peace Preservation Act, while largely extending the means previously existing for the prevention and detection of crime, and containing for that purpose effective and useful provisions, has not furnished the Executive with all the power necessary to deal with crime of that organised and secret nature which characterises the district in question. That the authorities have endeavoured vigorously to carry into effect the existing law, including the Peace Preserin question. That the authorites have endeavoured vigorously to carry into effect the existing law, including the Peace Preservation Act; but, owing to the causes referred to, they have rarely been able to make amenable to justice the perpetrators of the crimes, and in no instance anyone as a leader or organiser of the Ribbon Society."

The Cotton Famine Relief Fund, held at Manchester last Saturday, a resolution was agreed to recommending the appointment of a sub-committee to consider the details of a scheme for the foundation of one or more convalescent hospitals for the benefit of the working classes of the cotton manufacturing districts. Application will be made to the Court of Chancery for the authority necessary for such a disposal of the balance, which amounts to nearly £50,000 in the hands of the treasurer of the central committee and to about £73,000 with the treasurer of the cotton district fund. Lord Derby was appointed chairman of the committee.

COMMON COUNCIL.—At a meeting of the Court on Thursday, Mr. Bontems, chairman of the Markets Committee, brought up a report recommending the enlargement of Billingsgate Market by extending it to the western side of Darkhouse-lane, at a cost not exceeding £150,000. The report was agreed to and referred back for execution. The Lord Mayor said he had received a communication from the representatives of Miss Burdett Coutts stating that that lady was desirous of having a conference with the authorities of the Corporation with reference to Columbia Market, on which she had expended about a quarter of million of money, and that she was fully disposed to hand it over to the Corporation in such a manner as would carry out her own views and add very much to the advantage of the metropolis, and especially of the pover inhabitants. The communication was referred to the Markets Committee.

M. Gustave Flourens.—Best known as a Revolutionist, M. Gustave

tion was referred to the Markets Committee.

M. GUSTAVE FLOURENS.—Best known as a Revolutionist, M. Gustave Flourens was also a writer of merit. The son of the well-known Secretary of the Academy of Sciences, he was himself a lecturer at the College of France; and his course on "Ethnography," delivered in 1863, attracted much attention at the time. His work on "The Science of Man." published in 1864, was, we believe, his only non-political book; and in 1865 he left France for Grete, where for three years he fought in the mountains against the Turkish troops. The best known of his later writings is his "Paris Given Up," published last month—a work which is well worthy of being read at the present moment. Whatever view may be taken of his politics, even his opponents never falled to admit his great courage and perfect honesty. Killed, near Nanterre, by the cavalry of the Marquis de Galifet, his death is deplored in Paris by many friends who were far from being Revolutionists.—Athencum.

GENERAL DOMBROWSKI.—Dombrowski is a little man, unimposing in

callet, his death is deplored in Paris by many friends who were far from being Revolutionists.—Athenœum.

GENERAL DOMBROWSKI.—Dombrowski is a little man, unimposing in every way, with an ordinary face, thin, light hair, and gold spectacles. I have seen many men like him among German students—men unmarked by any particular character, who pass before you and disappear without leaving any impression whatever upon the mind. He has two aides-de-camp, boys about sixteen or seventeen years of age, clad in gorgeous uniforms, made tight to display a slim figure. A fourth figure completes the cortige—a tall, dark man, of truculent aspect, in a red Garibaldi shirt and cap to match, who looks as if his mission was to protect the three little men who ride in front of him. However unlike a commander-in-chief he may be in outward aspect, I believe there is no doubt as to the personal valour of Dombrowski. He certainly is always in the front, encouraging his men, and appears to have succeeded in gaining their enthusiastic admiration in spite of his foreign birth and tongue.—Paris Correspondent of the Times.

SMALPOX IN LONDON.—At a meeting of the Metropolitan Asylums Board, last Saturday, a report from Dr. Bridges, medical officer of the Poor-Law Board, was read, calling attention to the increase of smallpox in the metropolis, and stating that there are now considerably more than 2000 persons suffering from this disease. He added that the Poor-Law Board would offer every assistance to the execution of any feasible plan for supplying additional accommodation. The Lords of the Admiralty having placed the Dreadnought heepital ship at the disposal of the board as a convalescent establishment, the offer was accepted. It is pointed out by the Registrar-General that the fatal cases of smallpox in London, which, during the true weeks ending the 8th inst., had ranged between 185 and 227, averaging 206, rose last week to 265, the highest weekly number that has occurred during the present epidemic. It is probable that part of this increa

during the thirty-one years 1840-70 was 102 in the last week of 1840.

THE LICENSING BILL.—The licensed victuallers are rapidly organising an active opposition to the Government Licensing Bill. At a numerously-attended meeting, convened by their Protection Society, on Monday, resolutions were passed condemning the measure, and adopting a petition to the House of Commons against it. A similar course was agreed upon at a gathering of the Country Brewers' Society. At the same time a meeting was held at the York Hotel, Waterloo-road, at which it was decided to form a committee of the Lambeth district, for the purpose of communicating with the Parliamentary representatives of the borough. At the same time, the United Kingdom Alliance are mustering their forces in opposition to the bill. On Monday evening there was a demonstration at Exeter Hall—Mr. R. M. Carter, M. P., in the chair. The epackers included Archdeacon Sandford, Dr. F. R. Lees, Sir Wilfrid Lawson, M.P., Mr. Samuel Pope, and Mr. Dalway, M.P. Resolutions were passed in favour of the Permissive Bill, declaring that the Government measure in its present shape could not be accepted as satisfying the urgent wants of the nation, and exhorting the friends of the Alliance everywhere to remain steadily faithful to the vital principle of the movement. principle of the movement.

principle of the movement.

THE TRADE OF PRESTON.—After many years of really bad trade, Preston seems to be looking up again. All the cotton-mills, with the exception of two or three, have been reopened, and are now in full operation, and other branches of trade appear brisk. In nearly every instance the operative cotton-spinners have obtained the advance of wages they sought, and the weavers have been successful in obtaining an increase of 5 per cent from fourteen firms, and others are expected to give it immediately. The flourishing state of three building societies recently re-established furnishes gratifying proof of the improved condition of trade. The reports show a rate of progress at once startling and encouraging. That of the Seventh Improved Benefit Building Society, re-established only about a month ago, states that nearly £29,000 worth of shares have been taken up, and a large increase is confidently reckoned upon at the next meeting. The Prince Albert shows a share-list of £16,000, and the Preston and District one of nearly £24,000. Altogether, then, nearly £70,000 worth of shares have been taken up within a few weeks. These facts prove that not only is there a great revival of trade, but that a very large number of the working pepulation are of provident habits.

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SUNDAY POSTAL LABOUR.

MR. REED, the member for Hackney, has managed to procure from the House of Commons a declaration that it is desirable that postal labour on Sundays should be reduced to a minimum, and that an inquiry should be instituted with a view to see how much of the work now done on the first day of the week can be cut off altogether. We have no sympathy with the Rev. Bee Wright, or informers of any kind, who do their best to get put in force the half-obsolete laws against Sunday trading. On the other hand, we should be glad to see it done away with by the feeling and good management of all parties concerned. Neither can we agree with those who endeavour, in the particular question at issue, to make out that the case of the large towns and that of the rural districts is the same. In London, for example, a public man or a man of business is at the centre of affairs: and if anything really and imperatively requiring action occurs, he is certain to be able to acquire the knowledge of it without the intervention of the Post Office. If, however, he happens to be out of town, in a rural district, he is in a very different position. True, there is the telegraph; but it is not easy to convey fine shades of meaning or information by its instrumentality; and the full information or expression of feeling which a letter brings may be of the very utmost consequence. Still, we would not press any of these points. Postmen, in general, are overworked, and, considering what a remunerative concern the Post Office is, underpaid; while the rural postmen have the hardest labour and the shortest wages. And, both in town and country, the more closely the Day of Rest is observed as a day of rest, the better for us all. Though we cannot allow that the Government has any right, especially from a religious point of view, to compel anyone to cease from labour on Sunday, it has a perfect right to say that its officials shall not be required to labour on that day, and also to make a universal rest more easy to those who desire to share in it. So that we think Mr. Reed has done good service in bringing forward his motion.

But, incidentally, an old question reappears in connection with this fresh movement. The Government monopoly of the carriage of letters has never yet been justified against the more serious objections to it; and if a certain number of persons were to come forward and say, "You may go without your letters on Sunday, but we do not want to go without ours;" while another body of men said "We are ready to form a company for the purpose of delivering your letters on Sunday"-what fair answer would the Government have, taking the question simply as one of political economy? Of course they could reply, "All worldly labour on Sundays is against the law." But then comes in the tu quoque argument; and to that there can be no rejoinder. In the mean time, we congratulate the rural postmen on their improved prospects for Sundays; and we think the majority of those country people who receive letters on the first day of the week will be better without them.

TURN HIM OUT!

A VERY flagrant case has just occurred at a London police court. A gentleman, at the back of the pit in a leading theatre, had exclaimed to the actors on the stage, "Speak Some of the audience cried "Turn him out!" policeman not only hauled the gentleman out of the theatre, but actually took him to the station-house, where the sergeant on duty refused to accept a £5 note as bail, and kept the gentleman locked up all night. The magistrate condemned this high-handed conduct, and said (if he is correctly reported) that the policeman should have confined himself to turning the gentleman out of the theatre. But is that all? Is it really a fact that a man may be taken forcibly out of a place of amusement just because some of the other persons present exclaim "Turn him out!" when he is only calling upon the actors to "speak up," even though he do this rather boisterously? We hope this matter will not be allowed to drop here, and that, if the facts have been correctly reported, the extruded person will bring an action for false imprisonment, and in this indirect way at least obtain a legal dictum of some weight upon the prior question. Unless we mistake, an auditor was recently summoned by a manager for hissing a play. The next thing will be to summon someone for coughing, or for laughing

SIR WILLIAM STIRLING-MAXWELL, of Keir, has acceded to the unanimous request of the committee to take the leading part in the Scott centenary celebration, on Aug. 9 next. The Lord Justice-Clerk has also agreed to take such part in the proceedings as may be assigned to him. The Earl of Derby and Earl Stathope have requested that their names may be placed on the committee.

SAYINGS AND DOINGS.

HER MAJESTY, accompanied by their Royal Highnesses Prince Leopold and Princess Beatrice, attended by the ladies and gentlemen of the Court, will, it is understood, leave Osborne on or about May 2, and return to Windsor Castle.

THE DUKE OF SANE COBURG GOTHA has had an attack of gastric fever from which he is, however, recovering.

THE EMPEROR NAPOLEON attained the age of sixty-three on Thursday He was born in Paris on April 20, 1808.

THE DUKE OF CAMBRIDGE is reported to be unwell. His Royal Highness, who was at Portsmouth on a tour of inspection, was compelled to leave that town, on Wednesday, for London.

HER MAJESTY'S SHIP GALATEA, Captain his Royal Highness the Duke of Edinburgh, arrived at Montevideo on March 12.

VICE-CHANGELLOR WICKENS on Wednesday took the seat in the Court at Lincoln's Inn, lately occupied by Sir John Stuart. His Honour's the County Palatine of Lancaster is Mr. George Little, Q.C.

MR. HENRY ERNEST BULWER, C.M.G., lately Receiver-General of Trinidad and Administrator of the Government of Domínica, will succeed Mr. Pope-Hennessy as Governor of Labuan.

M. EDMOND ABOUT has been appointed French Minister Plenipotentiary to Lisbon.

EASTER TERM was opened last Saturday, after the Judges had been received by the Lord Chancellor.

MR. REED, the late Chief Constructor of the British Navy, has just received and accepted an official invitation to visit the dockyards and arsenals of Russia.

MR. FORSTER and the Solicitor-General have prepared a bill to amend the law respecting the granting of charters to new colleges and universities, by providing that copies of such charters shall be laid before Parliament for a period of not less than thirty days before they are presented to her Majesty for signature. THE REV. F. SOUTHGATE, Vicar of Northfieet, informed his congregation on Easter Day that as "buttons, bad money, and other things not fit to mention" were put in the offertory bags, the collections would in future

be made in open plates. MR. WILLIAM CLOWES, of Camden Cottage, Pinner, was fined 40s. and 5s. costs at the Marylebone Police Court, last Saturday, for refusing to show his season ticket at Euston station.

JOHN MAY, a man who had attained to 102 years of age, died on Sunday in the west of England. He entered Devonport Dockyard nearly ninety years ago, and at the time of his decease was in the full possession of his

faculties AMERICAN COTTON-SEED is now being exported to England (says an American paper) to be made into first quality "olive oil."

M. LOCKBOY, late one of the deputies for Paris, is now a prisoner in the military hospital at Versailles. He was arrested on the Vanves road, and was found to be furnished with a passport from the Commune.

THE SOUTH KENSINGTON MUSEUM and the galleries connected with it were visited during Easter week by 50,885 persons, being an increase of 19,669 over the corresponding week of last year.

A WOMAN IN WATERFORD died on Monday from drinking twenty-six glasses of whisky. The liquor was stolen from a spirit-store, and the man who gave it to the deceased is in custody charged with being accessory to her death.

THE SOUTH NORFOLK ELECTION has resulted in the return of the Conservative candidate, the votes polled being—Sir R. J. Buxton (C.), 2868; Mr. Gurdon (L.), 2547: majority, 321.

MR. HENRY POWNALL, late chairman of the Middlesex justices, has been presented with a testimonial, value 500 ga., subscribed for by his brother magistrates, on his retirement from a position which he had occupied for more than a quarter of a century.

THE THEATRE OF THE CELESTINS at Lyons has been entirely destroyed by fire. Two firemen lost their lives, and three others had to be removed to the hospital.

THE LORDON SCHOOL BOARD resumed, on Wednesday, the consideration of a motion by the Rev. John Rodgers disapproving the application of its funds to denominational elementary schools. To this Canon Cromwell had moved an amendment giving the beard a discretionary power to pay the school fees of poor children. The amendment was carried, but, on its becoming a substantive resolution, the previous question was agreed to by a large majority.

A LARGE PUBLIC MEETING in support of Mr. Miall's motion for the separation of Church and State was held in the Townhall, Birmingham, on Tuesday night. The chairman of the Central Nonconformist Committee, Mr. W. Middlemoor, J.P., presided; and among the speakers were Mr. Auberon Herbert, M.P., and Mr. Alfred Illingworth, M.P.

FOWLER'S STEAM-PLOUGH WORKS, Hunslip, were seriously damaged by fire early on Monday morning, owing, it is stated, to an escape of gas, which ignited on the watchman approaching it with his lantern.

MISS BRACKENBURY has signified her intention of giving the sum of £10,000 for the establishment of a medical school in connection with Owens College, Manchester.

THE DEATH is announced of the Rev. E. Pote, Senior Fellow of King's college, Cambridge, one of the oldest members of the University. He took

A TESTIMONIAL, raised by subscription, and valued at 200 gs., was on hur-day presented, at the Guildhall, Cambridge, to Mr. Alderman Charles halls, ex-Mayor of that borough, and for many years the energetic leader f the local Conservatives. The list of subscribers contains the names f several heads of colleges and other influential members of the

A BILL, bearing the names of Mr. Baxter, the Attorney-General, and Mr. W. H. Gladstone, proposes to abolish the office of Accountant-General of the High Court of Chancery, and to amend the law respecting the investment of money paid into that Court, and the security and management of the moneys and effects of the suitors thereof.

THE EXCHEQUER RECEIPTS, in the second week of the financial year, had amounted to £2,177,147, and the expenditure to £5,886,836. The balance in the Bank of England on Saturday last was £2,548,001, and in the Bank of Ireland, £803,371.

MR. LAUDERDALE MAITLAND, formerly lessee of the Lyceum Theatre, is in the Bankruptcy Court, with debts amounting to £8778. It is probable that a composition will be agreed to.

VISCOUNT DE VALCOURT, lately private secretary to M. Gambetta delivered the first of a series of lectures on the War, at Willis's Rooms, on Monday. The address was interesting as giving an account of the events which preceded the surrender of Metz, and as showing M. de Valcourt's appreciation of Bazaine's motives for what he deemed the Marshal's

A WAR-OFFICE RETURN shows that 24,698 recruits were enlisted in the course of last year for the regular Army; 14,927 were finally accepted— viz., 12,903 enlisted in England, 809 in Scotland, and 9215 in Ireland. The return states also that 16,969 volunteers were enrolled in the year 1870 for the militia, and 4733 militiamen volunteered for the regular Army in the same year.

AT A MEETING OF DELEGATES from the engineering trades in New-castle, held on Monday night, it was resolved to agitate for the nine hours movement in concert with the Sunderland engineers, who have been on strike a fortnight. The Newcastle joiners are on strike for fifty hours' labour per week, and the bakers are asking for a reduction of their hours of ork to ten and a half per day.

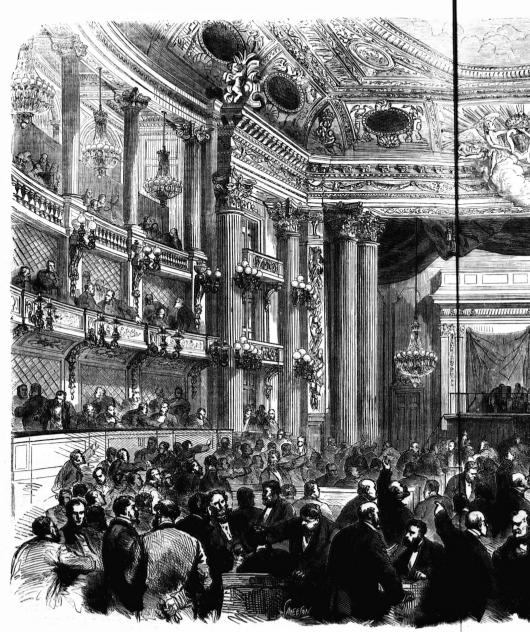
MR. TREVELYAN GOODALL, eldest son of Mr. Frederick Goodall, R.A., has been accidentaly shot, while on an excursion to Pompeii. The wound was not immediately fatal, but after suffering some days inflammation set in, and Mr. Goodall died. He was only twenty-three years of age.

A TREMENDOUS CONFLAGRATION broke out, at about half-past ten last Saturday evening, on the premises of Messrs. Burt, printers, situated in Wine-Office court, Fleet-street. A large force of manual and steam-engines promptly attended, under the superintendence of Captain Shaw, and in the course of an hour had subdued it to such an extent that no further fearpromptly attended, under the superintendence of Captain Shaw, and secures of an hour had subdued it to such an extent that no further were entertained.

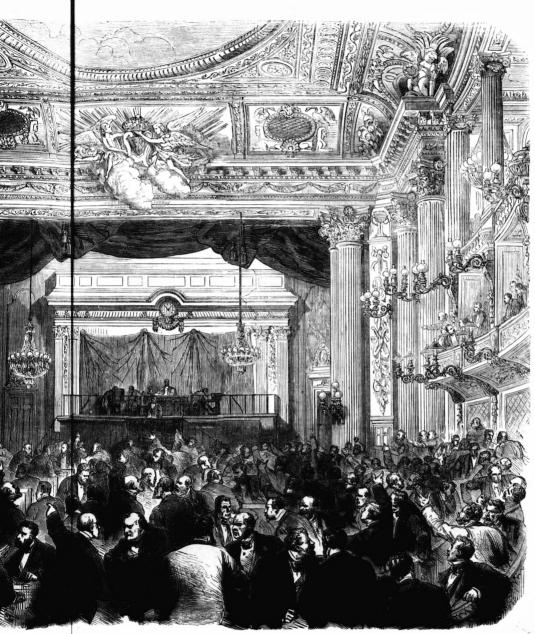
A YOUNG MAN NAMED ROLAND MEREDITH entered the Railway Tavern, at Hornsey, early last Saturday morning, and made a violent and unprovoked attack upon Mr. Scoles, the proprietor, who is seventy-nine years of age. His assailant endeavoured to escape, but was captured. Mr. Scoles is in such a dangerous state that it has been considered necessary to take his depositions.

to take his depositions.

THE "TWELVE O'CLOCK MOVEMENT"—that is, the agitation to secure the cessation of work in the mills at noon on Saturdays—is assuming a rather unpleasant aspect at Oldham. On Saturday last, in many large mills, the machinery was stopped at noon, but orders had been given that the workpeople should not be allowed to leave until one o'clock. This prohibition gave rise to considerable disorder, and many of the workpeople made their way over walls and gates, whilst others hooted and hissed their employers. Fortunately, no actual violence was perpetrated.



THE FRENCH ASSEMBLY IN SESSION A



ASSEMBLY IN SESSION AT VERSAILLES.

THE FRENCH NATIONAL ASSEMBLY.

THE FRENCH NATIONAL ASSEMBLY.

Some stormy scenes have occurred in the French Assembly since it commenced its sittings at Versailles; but, as a rule, M. Thiers and his colleagues seem to be pretty successful in guiding the deliberations. Our Engraving represents the Assembly while the members were in one of their effervescent moods; but that excitement scon passed away. Mr. Samuel J. Capper, writing to the Times, describes a debate which he heard in the Assembly a few days ago:—"The National Assembly holds its meetings in the theatre of the palace, the members occupying the pit, and the President, M. Grévy, sitting at a table on the stage facing them. Immediately below him is the tribune, from which all the orators deliver their speeches. It was a very interesting scance. There was profound attention when M. Jules Favre entered the tribune to explain the attitude of the German authorities towards the French Government with regard to what was now happening in Paris. He had been at the German headquarters the previous Sunday (April 9), and had brought back with him the copy of a document in which the Communists demand of the Prussians that, in case the first instalment of the indemnity has been paid, the forts shall be handed over not to the Versailles Government, but to the Paris Commune. He read this certainly very remarkable State paper with great clearness of enunciation, making running comments as he proceeded. It was a short speech, but delivered very impressively, and was received with considerable applause. M. Favre looks older and more careworn than his portraits make him appear. As soon as he opens his lips you feel that you are listening to a consummate orator. Upon his leaving the tribune, a discussion upon the electoral law was proceeded with. The good sense and cogency of the arguments of most of the speakers were very striking, and in point of elecution I think the scance would compare very favourably with Some stormy scenes have occurred in the French Assembly since Upon his leaving the tribune, a discussion upon the electoral law was proceeded with. The good sense and cogency of the arguments of most of the speakers were very striking, and in point of elecution I think the seance would compare very favourably with an ordinary sitting of the House of Commons. Towards seven o'clock the House became very impatient and noisy — I suppose all assemblies are apt to get restive about dinner-time—and this brought M. Thiers into the tribine. The venerable chief of the Executive seems as vigorous and active as a lad, and showed great tact in the way in which he persuaded the Assembly to adjourn the debate. The white-headed septuagenarian is not the only 'great little man'—I allude to his stature—at present remarkable in France. Half-way down the Chamber, at the end of a bench on the extreme left, sits a little man, with long black hair, who, from his appearance, at any rate as seen from the box where I was sitting, you would take to be, at most, twenty-five. He must be at least sixty. It is Leuis Blanc. Sitting in this Assembly, and hearing how calmly and carefully affairs were being discussed, it was difficult, even if one heard the cannon in the pauses of the debate, to realise that within a short hour's drive a deadly strife was being waged between the soldiers of this, the National Assembly of France, and insurgents who had possessed themselves of, and had now for weeks held, its capital."

LIFE IN PARIS.

Paris, Monday Night.

LIFE IN PARTS.

Paris, Monday Night.

I MET a friend to-day. This may seem a very small fact to chronicle, seeing that I am not going to tell you who he was, or what he said, or anything about him. The little fact is worthy of record, because it seemed like the meeting of two Englishmen in the deserts of Africa. If you came here just now you would find yourself nearly friendless. Almost all the Englishmen of your society are flown, and almost all the Frenchmen too. It is the oddest sensation this—to be in Paris in a kind of solitude. Paris boasts that it is the most hospitable city in the world: it likes to speak of its hospitality. I have before now had cceasion to observe that the phrase is not exact; and when, as far as delicacy will permit, you push a Frenchman to explain what he means by talking so much of the hospitality of Paris, as if it were beyond that of London for example, you find out his meaning to be, that Paris is the most sociable city in the world. But in this most sociable of cities, where, no doubt, you inagine that you count your friends by the score, you will find, as you walk along the boulevards, that there is scarcely a soul you know, and the old familiar faces, that were to you as the faces of your own home, have passed out of sight. As I move about now among people who are most of them new to me, I feel as if I were the genuine Rip van Winkle of whom we have heard so much. This is not the Paris which I thought I knew so well: as if I were the genuine Rip van Winkle of whom we have heard so much. This is not the Paris which I thought I knew so well: so much. This is not the Paris which I thought I knew so well; and all my friends, where are they? This is a new generation, who are strange to me. I was on the boulevard to-day, and wanted change for a 500f. note. Only a few weeks ago there were half a dozen shops thereabout into which I might enter, sure that the shopkeeper would give me change. To-day either the shops were shut or they were in charge of people who were not the regular attendants, or they had no money, and I had to go home to my hotel before I could get change. I met an acquaintance the other day who was in great tribulation because the friendly banker on whom he relied had gone away. This acquaintaince was bound to remain in Paris, and, fearing the worst, had had the prudence to establish a good credit for himself at a well-known English banker's. One morning he wanted to draw a little money. The bank was shut and he was without resources in this desert city, from which all his friends had fied.

In spite of the unpleasantness which attends on solitude, and In spite of the unpleasantness which attends on solitude, and the horrors of which the Red men are capable, I must say a few words in praise of Paris under the new order of things. In the first place, crime—that is, private crime—is wonderfully diminished. You have heard so much of the bloodshed and pillage, and other violences of the Commune, that perhaps you fancy every man's life and property in danger. They may be so; but in this case it is the Government or quasi-Government of Paris which is the criminal. The crime is wholesale, and committed by authority. It such a state of society it may be expected that indirity. In such a state of society it may be expected that individuals will take advantage of public disturbance and the dislocation of authority to pursue their own private ends, robbing and killing at their pleasure. But here, on the contrary—it may be from terror—the people are so well behaved (putting their political passions out of account), that I never felt more secure than I do now. What dangers threaten us are the dangers arising from political passion, and not those which come of private hatred or cupidity. And, as times go, the people are wonderfully civil. I have brushed up against the wild unkempt National Guards of Belleville again and again. I have always found them, and the state of the company all the officials of the Commune, exceedingly good-humoured and genial. Under the old order of things I should expect from a sentinel a rough answer, or from a doorkeeper a listless, lazy, unwilling look. Now the sentinel "citizens" me, and I "citizen" him; but our little colloquy goes on on the easiest terms. I wanted to get into the Place Vendôme the other day, where there was a very strict watch kept. The sentinels at first would not let me pass the barricade, and barred the passage with their bayonets; but when I stated that I wanted to go to Roberts, the English chemist's, up went the bayonets in a moment, and I was allowed to pass through in the kindliest way. At the public offices, too, the doorkeepers are most attentive and obliging, and the officials seem to know something of their business. In the olden time (it was seem to know something of their business. In the olden time (it was very bad under the Empire, but it was still worse under the Republic) it was a great difficulty to get any information from anyone. No one seemed to know anything. You were knocked about from post to pillar, and from office to office, and might spend a whole day in finding out that it was nobody's duty to assist you in anything—you had better apply at the bureau at the top of the next flight of stairs. Now these rough fellows of the Commune at least go straight to their work, and have thrown off the circumlocution and red tape of the old Imperial style. They are much more business-like than their predecessors, and everybody who has to do with them admits with pleasure that, be their faults what they may, they walk straight and do not afflict you faults what they may, they walk straight and do not afflict you

with the terrible zigzags and circumambient sauntering of the men they have replaced.

It is strange to see in the Official Journal—when the siege has in It is strange to see in the Official Journal—when the siege has in a manner begun—the decree by which co-operative societies of workmen are authorised to take possession of vacant factories and workshops, to turn them to their own uses. The name of coward is a great word here. Anybody who does anything disagreeable is always a coward; everybody who has left Paris is a coward; the owners of the empty factories, who do not see the amusement of paying workmen who will not work, are cowards. Their shops are to be seized and occupied to carry out one part of the socialistic scheme. It is merely to satisfy a theory. The workmen will never work under the present system—they do not wish to work. But it is a fine theory that they should be supposed to work; and as by a stroke of the pen the Commune released them from the necessity of paying rent for the last nine months, so it now proposes to instal them as collective owners of the manufactories in which they had formerly to serve.—Correspondent of the Daily which they had formerly to serve. - Correspondent of the Daily

THE LOUNGER.

Every day the opinion at the House that Mr. Bruce will not press his Licensing Bill this year gets stronger. I have never doubted for a moment that it must be withdrawn. Indeed, in its present form it will, I am confident, never pass. That Mr. Bruce should imagine that he could get such a bill through the House is amazing. By the way, are all important measures submitted to the present form it will, I am confident, never pass. That Mr. Bruce should imagine that he could get such a bill through the House is amazing. By-the-way, are all important measures submitted to the Cabinet? I always thought they were; but my opinion is shaken. It seems to me to be impossible that Mr. Gladstone, Mr. Goschen, or Mr. Forster, could have seen the bill before the Home Secretary presented it to the House. Why, if the bill should ever become law, hundreds—I may say, thousands—of people who have invested their money under the sanction of the law will be rained, and a gigantic monopoly will grow up, the like of which has never yet existed in the United Kingdom. But if Mr. Bruce should withdraw his bill, he cannot undo the mischief he has done. Here is an example:—A house which would a month ago have fetched £10,000, could not now be sold for half the money. Indeed, the sale of public-houses is quite stopped; and, always remember this, property of this sort has not only grown up under the protection of the law, but the growth has been fostered and encouraged by the law. Nor is it only the property in public-houses that has been rendered insecure: in every town in England there are small brewers, who brew and sell their own beer, and maltsters who supply said brewers with malt—a class of men which a wise Government would encourage. Well, it is certain that if the bill were to become law the trades of these men would be ruined. There is, too, another consideration which ought to be pondered by the Prime Minister. If Mr. Bruce should attempt to pass this bill, Mr. Gladstone will soon see his adherents fall away; and, if obliged to appeal to the country, his majority will be reduced to less than half what it is now. A gentleman who lately canvassed West Norfolk told me that this bill lost the Liberal party at least a hundred votes. bill lost the Liberal party at least a hundred votes.

I am glad to see that the Corporation of London are about to grapple earnestly with the Endowed-Schools Commissioners. It is time; for these gentlemen have got some very foolish notions into their heads, which it were well should be shaken out. For into their heads, which it were well should be shaken out. For example, they have heard that indiscriminate charity increases pauperism; and no doubt this is a great truth. But it is an enormous blunder to apply the principle to charity schools; and yet this is what these Commissioners propose to do in the case of the Emanuel Hospital, for example. In the schools belonging to that charity, which have hitherto been free, there is to be no gratuitous charity education, except as a reveard of merit—that is, the beyen are to win greating schools and a competitive examithe boys are to win gratuitous education in a competitive examination. But, in the name of common sense, how is a boy whose parents are too poor to give him any education to win gratuitous education? "Indiscriminate free admissions to schools is missions to schools is missions." parents are too poor to give him any extention of the state of the sta m another case the commissioners, dectaining that electrosynary education is a great evil, have decreed that fees of admission shall be paid—say, to one school £5, to a higher £10; and by this plan they think they have got rid of electrosynary education and all its terrible consequences. Let us see how this is. Jones, the cobbler, has no money to spare for fees, and his boys are excluded, cobbler, has no money to spare for fees, and his boys are excluded, because elemosynary education is wrong. But how about Brown, the Colonel, round the corner? He pays £10 for an education which is worth £30; and is not the education of his boys eleemosynary? One more. These Commissioners act upon the principle that only Brown would be benefited by this free education. Nothing can be more stupid than this. The boys would be made better citizens, and the country would be thus benefited. It is for the benefit of the State, and not merely for the benefit of Brown and his boys, that we would have them educated. Brown and his boys, that we would have them educated. And now, in conclusion, I will give an extract from a paper issued by these Endowed-Schools Commissioners, which will, I think, astonish my readers. Here it is:—"Nothing can be worse economy than to waste early life in a school rendered worthless by indiscriminate free admissions." There, readers! Read that, and criminate free admissions." There, readers! Read that, and discover its meaning if you can. I have read it many times and can find no meaning in it. How, in the name of common sense, can find no meaning in it. How, in the name of common sense, do free admissions render a school worthless? As I have said, all schools in the United States are free. Are they all rendered worthless? I was educated at a free grammar-school; my sons were educated at free schools; all the boys in those schools were free boys. I am not conscious that I or they wasted our early lives. The truth is, that sentence is simply nonsense; and yet these Commissioners are all learned men. wisdom and learning are not always allied. So true is it that

THE MAGAZINES, ETC.

In the Fortnightly Review Mr. Herbert Spencer, under the title of "Morals and Moral Sentiments," defends himself against the direct criticisms of Mr. Richard Hutton in Macmillan for July, defends himself against the direct criticisms of Mr. Richard Hutton in Macmillan for July, 1869, and the indirect criticisms of Sir Alexander Grant in the previous number of the Review. Dislectically, the defence is, I doubt not, successful; and every reader who glances at this corner of the paper, knows my respect for Mr. Herbert Spencer. corner of the paper, knows my 'respect for Mr. Herbert Spencer. But it does not seem to me that the battle-field of the vital question is essentially shifted. In other words, when Mr. Herbert Spencer has done his best, the question immediately crops up again in a fresh and not less difficult shape. Mr. Eyre's "New Forest—A Sketch" is deeply interesting. Miss Helen Taylor's paper, "Paris and France," contains a view of the French difficulties which, to use Shelley's phrase, may "fold itself up for a serener clime;" but I entirely agree with it. Mr. Farrar's paper on Lord Lytton's "King Arthur" is unsatisfactory, and does not stir the question one inch. There is no unwillingness on the part of critical writers—certainly none on mine—to admit the claims of Lord Lytton as a poet. But it cannot be admitted that the "mysterious something" which critics find wanting in Lord Lytton's poetry is merely, or at all, what may be called Tennysonian timbre. Nobody denies that Mr. Browning is a poet; and surely the Tennysonian timbre is wanting in him! The fact is, the extracts which Mr. Farrar himself gives from "King Arthur" are of the most damaging kind. I have never, here or elsewhere, falled to be specific in pointing out what is wanting in the poetry of Lord Lytton; and I repeat what has been said before in the ILLUSTRATED TIMES—namely, that this distinguished writer, both in prose and verse, fails to exhibit the simplicity and directness which are especially necessary in poetry. Not the simplicity which excludes art, but that which excludes artifice. Besides this, there is an utter want of intensity; and in all the But it does not seem to me that the battle-field of the vital ques-

extracts Mr. Farrar gives there is not one high imaginative touch. This is a heavy charge; but I maintain it. The lack of imaginative power is especially seen in the epithets. There is nothing which more instantly determines the quality of writing as poetic or non-poetic than the use the writer makes of his adjectives. The last line and it is good—in all those extracts is the following. best line-and it is good-in all these extracts is the following: Thought broke in glimmering trouble o'er his breast;

but Lord Lytton immediately proceeds (following up the image of a sea) to spoil the effect of this in a way which suggests that he could not have known what he was about when he had said it. For he adds:-

And found no billow where its beam could rest.

which is absolutely fatal. Then the mere common-places of poetic upholstery are as numerous in the author's poetry as they are in his prose. In short, the writer whom most of all Lord Lytton spreas. In short, the which whom he so it in 130th Lytten teembles, when looked at from the poetic point of view, is Mr. sraeli. Of course, he is superior as a scholar and versifier, and also as a labourer, to say nothing of superiority of range; but the comparison is a true one, and will be found fertile by those who to think it out.

The Food Journal continues its useful and entertaining career, and is probably doing some good. It might be better, but it is a periodical which deserves every encouragement, and is well worth taking in.

The Victoria Magazine is not an unusually interesting number. I have to acknowledge with thanks the receipt of a ticket for the last discussion at the Victoria Debating Society. But I didn't go, and don't intend to go to any place where ladies "debate." I have seen ladies speak in public, and didn't like it. In one case the lecturess, while quoting Mrs. Hemans, was mopping the perspiration off her nose; and in the other, while she was "gestulating" with both arms, a gallant gentleman was fanning her back between the shoulder-blades! If a woman must expose herself to unpleasant physical conditions (the presence of a good development) Victoria Magazine is not an unusually interesting number. back between the shoulder-blades: It a woman must expose her-self to unpleasant physical conditions (the presence of a good deal of sulphuretted hydrogen, for example), why, she must, and there is an end. But as little of it as possible, and let the necessity be clearly made out. I ought to add that the present number of the

"The Set of the Tide." But I am writing from memory.

Mr. Charles Gibbon's new novel, "For Lack of Gold," is in some important particulars a great advance upon "Robin Gray," and as a picture of Scottish life it is not less minutely faithful.

Not that I am a Scot, but that I know numbers of the breed, and the all peak in strong presses of the drawing and colouring of Mr. they all speak in strong praise of the drawing and colouring of Mr. Gibbon's sketches. The characters, taken merely as human figures, are full of life and naturalness, and the plot is an invention of a high order. There is not a "scamped" line from one end of the book to the other; and, last not least, there is much humour

Mr. Richard Hutton's "Essays" have already been mentioned by me; but those who like to study his writings still feel a want, and would immensely like to see reprinted a number of his shorter papers in the Spectator. Surely, they are not to be buried? Rather than miss seeing them collected, I would myself gladly undertake the labour of making a selection—subject, of course, to Mr. Hutton's revising hand in the last resort.

THE THEATRICAL LOUNGER.

There lately appeared in print a little story which told how a funny old woman located herself with the laudlady of the "Three Pigeons," and, when the assembled village attempted to dislodge her, it was discovered that the strange old lady was a fairy gifted with the power of making everyone do extraordinary things by impulse. The story bore the well-known signature of fairy gifted with the power of making everyone do extraordinary things by impulse. The story bore the well-known signature of W. S. Gilbert; and it has now been turned into a little fairy play called "The Creatures of Impulse," and produced with much success at the pretty Court Theatrie. Mr. Gilbert is resolutely sticking to his determination to show burlesque "a clean pair of heels;" and he certainly may be congratulated on his originality in devising an entertainment, which does not exactly answer to heels;" and he certainly may be congratulated on his originality in devising an entertainment which does not exactly answer to anything that has gone before it. He must be a queer fellow who would refuse to laugh at, and enjoy, "The Creatures of Impulse!" It is stimulating as a tonic. It strengthens the dramatic constitution! The plot of the play turns on the determination of the villagers to oust the little old lady, and the resolution of the fairy not to be ousted. No sooner do they try to drive her off or wheedle her out of the village than she raises her stick, and, wailing a dreadful incantation, she makes them do the exactly opposite to what they her out of the village than she raises her stick, and, wailing a dreadful incantation, she makes them do the exactly opposite to what they are desirous of doing. She does not change each of them entirely into someone else, but, preserving their individuality, impels them to do irrational things. Thus the cowardly young villager, Peter, who is always bragging, but never fighting, is impelled to square up to everyone, provoking a quarrel which he dare not follow up. The brave soldier home from the wars is impelled to sneak away from everyone like a coward, though in heart he is as brave as a lime. The prefix, modest maiden, the raider of the village, is lion. The pretty, modest maiden, the rosière of the village, is impelled to sow her kisses broadcast; and, though frightened to death at her boldness, flings her arms round the neck of every man. death at her boldness, flings her arms round the neck of every man. The miserable little miser, who clutches at his money-bags and is everlastingly jingling the coin, is impelled, though still the veriest skinflint, to offer gold and guineas with apparently reckless liberality. The buxom landlady, who desires, of course, to get on and delight her customers, is impelled, though still a landlady, to drive everyone from her doors: "Get out!" she says, "get out!" And so all the village is at sixes and sevens, owing to the miraculous powers of the wonderful old lady. The scene in which all the characters prove themselves to be creatures of impulse at the same moment is deliciously funny, and literally brought down the house. All acted extremely well. Mr. Righton was quite the thing as the miserly Jew; Miss Brennan full of fun as the coward Peter; Miss Kate Bishop as pretty as ever as the modest maiden; and, perhaps, best of all was Miss Lucy Franklein, who acted and sang admirably as the fairy or witch. The music, by M. Randegger, is well suited to the fairy play; and the scenery, by Mr. Potts, is excellent. I strongly advise a visit to the Court. Mr. John Clayton has relieved Mr. Herman Vezin of the character of Buckthorpe in the comedy of "Randall's Thumb," and I certainly reverses with content of the character of Buckthorpe in the comedy of "Randall's Thumb," and I certainly reverses with content of the character of Buckthorpe in the comedy of "Randall's Thumb," and I certainly reverses with the court of the character of Buckthorpe in the comedy of "Randall's Thumb," and I certainly reverses with the court. of Buckthorpe in the comedy of "Randall's Thumb," and I certainly never saw Mr. Clayton play better. The next novelty will be a play by Mr. Theyre Smith for Mr. John Clayton and Miss Litton, who will make her first appearance since her accession to

management. Three theatres will soon be open with French plays, and this will, indeed, be a very memorable season. The Charing Cross management has strengthened the company at this theatre considerably, and they have been playing this week "Nos Intimes," an admirable comedy-drama which was translated for the St. James's Theatre some years ago, under the title of "Friends or Foes." It is slightly suggestive in parts, but it contains situations of very powerful interest. At the Lyceum M. Raphael Felix has opened with the Parisian vaudeville company, and has stolen Mdlle. Riel from the Charing-Cross. Sardou's "Pattes de Mouche" ("A Scrap of Paper, and the Adventures of a Love-Letter," in English) and Barrière's "Faux Bons Hommes" have been the plays of the week at the Lyceum, the first being by far the most successful. This can hardly be wondered at, when the great Mdlle. Fargueil played Suzanne, of course to perfection. Barrière's comedy was ridiculously over-acted, particularly by such celebrated artists as Delannoy and Parade. It is not an interesting play, and the exaggeration struck me as being very unusual and extraordinary. But the best news of all is that we are to have the great Comédie Française, in a few weeks, at the Opéra Comique. Fancy Gôt and Bressart, Coquetin and Delaunay, Favart and the rest over here, at our doors, just at the time when, under ordinary circumstances, we should have been journeying to Paris to see them! This is, perhaps, the greatest treat English playgoers have ever had. I do hope it will give a fillip to English dramatic art. I expect seats will be at a premium, for here we shall see, without any exaggeration, the first artists in the world. Three theatres will soon be open with French plays, and this

Literature.

The Songstresses of Scotland. By SARAH TYTLER and J. L. WATSON. Two vols. London: Strahan and Co.

"A hit! a hit! a very palpable hit," has been made by the

Watson. Two vols. London: Strahan and Co.

"A hit! a hit! a very palpable hit," has been made by the authoresses of these most interesting volumes, who emphatically "strack ile" when they conceived the idea of writing and publishing, in a collected and consecutive series, the lives of Scotland's songstresses. And a happy idea has been most happily worked out, the result being two of the most charming volumes we have read for a long while. No mere piece of bookmaking this, as many—perhaps most—biographies of bygone worthies are apt to be. The work has evidently been a labour of love to the fair authoresses; and we heartily congratulate them on the success they have achieved, and as heartily thank them for the pleasure they have afforded us personally. Little pretence is made to the possession of special sources of information, though occasionally (notably in the case of Mrs. Cockburn of Ormiston) original matter has been available. The materials for most of the memoirs here presented to us were necessarily old; in some cases rather meagre, in others superabundant; but an admirable use has been made, both in the way of industrious collation and generally, though perhaps not always, of judicions curtailment, of pre-existing biographies. Nothing particularly new, for instance, is told us concerning such writers as Baroness Nairne, Lady Anne Barnard, or Joanna Baillie. Dr. Charles Rogers had already done all that well could be done in detailing the life and collecting the songs of the first-named lady; and the journals, letters, and published works of the two others supplied ample materials for their memoirs. But some of the life-histories here related—such as those of Jean Adam, Jean Elliot, Jean Glover (by-the-by, Jean seems to be a favourite name with the Scottish lyrical muse), and Elizabeth Hamilton—will be fresh to most readers, and in overy instance the stories of the lives of these sisters of song are pleasantly and lovingly told. The book, we are sure, will be a favourite with every man and woman fresh to most readers, and in every instance the stories of the lives of these sisters of song are pleasantly and lovingly told. The book, we are sure, will be a favourite with every man and woman of Scottish birth or blood who may be privileged to obtain a perusal of its pages, while a capital glossary affords a key to the treasures of northern song for those who know not Scotland's tongue. Not the least valuable feature of the work is this: that it affords the means of associating the name and career of the authoresses with songs that have long been household words in Scotland, and in other lands besides, but whose authors were to most of those who sang them unknown. Perhaps we cannot better recommend the book than by been household words in Scotland, and in other lands besides, but whose authors were to most of those who sang them unknown. Perhaps we cannot better recommend the book than by mentioning the names of the songstresses commemorated in it, and the titles of their best-known productions. These are:—

1, Lady Grisell Bailio ("Werena my Heart Licht I wad Dee");
2, Jean Adam ("There's mae Luck about the Howe");
3, Mrs. Cockburn (one set of "The Flowers o' the Forest");
4, Miss Jane Elliot (the other set of words to the same air);
5, Miss Susanna Blamire ("What ails this Heart o' mine?" "The Traveller's Return," &c.);
6, Jean Glover ("O'er the Muir amang the Heather");
7, Mrs. Elizabeth Hamilton ("My ain Fireside," the novel called "The Cottagers of Glenburnie," and sundry works on educational subjects);
8, Lady Anno Barnard ("Anld Robin Gray");
9, Carolina Baroness Nairne ("The Land o' the Leal," "Caller Herrin'," "The Laird o' Cockpen," "The auld House," "Wha'll be King but Charlie?" "Charlie is my Darling," "He's o'er the Hills that I Loe well," "John Tod," and a whole host of other capital Jacobite, humorous, and pathetic effusions); and, 10, Miss Joanna Baillie ("Wi' Lang-leggit Tam the Broose I tried," "The Merry Bachelor," "Woo'd an' Married an A'," "Fy, let us a' to the Weddin'," "Hooly and Fairly," "The Weary Pund o' Tow," "Poverty Parts Good Company," "Saw ye Johnnie Comin'?" and many more, besides "Plays of the Passions," and other elaborate works). Surely here is a noble sisterhood of genius; and the list may be continued by-and-by, for Joanna Baillie was not the last of the "Songstresses of Scotland," for are there not kindly Janet Hamilton, of Langloan, and others, yet to be enumerated? May we offer a couple of suggestions to Joanna Baillie was not the last of the "Songstresses of Scotland," for are there not kindly Janet Hamilton, of Langloan, and others, yet to be enumerated? May we offer a couple of suggestions to Misses Tytler and Watson?—First, that they set about collecting materials for such a continuation as we have proposed; and, second, that they give the world a collection of all the songs known to have been produced by the ladies whose memoirs they have written. Surely Jean Adam, Mrs. Cockburn, Miss Elliot, Lady Anne Barnard, and others wrote more than one song each, and we should like to know what the rest were.

Thoughts on Health and Some of its Conditions. By JAMES HINTON. London: Smith, Elder, and Co.

If anybody expects from the author of "Life in Nature" what is generally known as "a medical book," that expectation will be agreeably disappointed in the volume to which the present notice is directed. It is in one sense a medical book, because only a writer who had both thoughtfully studied and scientifically practised the art of the physician and the anatomist could have written it; but it is more than the record of a thoughtful scientific inquiry into the structure of the human frame. Its physics are evalted to

it; but it is more than the record of a thoughtful scientific inquiry into the structure of the human frame. Its physics are exalted to the region of metaphysics, and the reader is introduced to considerations which help to advance the long-desired attempt to unit the two branches of inquiry and show how physics and metaphysics meet in human kind—how the domains of mind and matter, of mental and physical life, are united—how, to use the good old formula, body, soul, and spirit join in the great mystery of human life to make one man.

These few words will give but a bare notion of the scope and grasp of the book, which, though it extends to fewer than 300 pages, deals with the subject of "Health;" what food is, what is the use of the brain. It then goes on to consider "Nursing as a Profession;" contains some admirable chapters on the more metaphysical or higher physical considerations in connection with human being, such as "Seeing with the Eyes Shut" and "Force;" concluding with two excellent chapters entitled "The Fairyland of Science" and "A Meditation on Skeletons and some other things." Only to state these divisions of the volume will, however, utterly fail to indicate its scope and philosophic tendency. To those who have seen the author's "Man and his Dwelling-place" these "Thoughts on Health" will not seem over-strained, or beyond the province of a book designed to discourse on the physical structure in relation not only to animal and opiritual. organic life, but to thought and action, and even to life moral and spiritual.

There is, it must be acknowledged, occasional discrepancy between the closeness of thought required to follow the author's deductions and the language in which he expresses his meaning. Now and then, too, he appears to abandon the methodical—or, at least the close and required to the close which is always least, the clear and accurate—mode of writing which is always desirable and usually necessary in such a work—as in the very outset (page 8), where he is speaking, in high and suggestive language, of the construction of the physical frame of man, he savs:—

Says:—

The earth is a magnet; electric streams circulate continually across its surface; by marvellous affinities, its constituent elements call to each ofter and they come. Given the problem, therefore, to provide for man from the dust of the carth a body full of activity, dowered with capability to respond to nature's infinite appeal, and fit to be the organ of this will, and we see that the means are at hand. Here is matter rich to overflowing with forces ready to be placed at his command. How should the body, then, be made? Of all this vast array of powers, which should be chosen for man's service?

This is all your wall as force it come, but the carthon odds:—(if it

chosen for man's service?
This is all very well as far as it goes, but the author adds:—"It were hard to have answered ere the work was done"—a phrase surely as obscure as it is inelegant. Hard for whom to have answered? For man, who, even supposing him spiritually existent or germinally created, could not even have been in a position to discern any such problem whatever, because he was not yet "dowered with the capability to respond to Nature's infinite

appeal;" or, in other words, had no physical instrumentality or affinity with material forces. Take it how one may, such a sentence seems to us little else than nonsense. But it would be hypercritical to dwell on it, for the phrase which spoils it is probably accidental—the result of giving way to a looseness of expression on a subject where, even if it be poetically expressed, the language or the analogy should be careful, exact, and never cumbered with false explatation. false exaltation.

We are almost sorry to have pointed out this one blemish in a book which has so much to recommend it. They author may, at book which has so much to recommend it. They author may, at least, forgive fastidiousness as an evidence of jealousy on behalf of his work. By a less thoughtful or a meaner writer such a feeling could scarcely be provoked. This later book of his, too, is greatly in advance of his former style with regard to clearness and decision, and consequently it possesses the power of conveying to the mind of the reader a greater number of rapid and distinct impressions. It is a book which must be read as a whole, and read attentively. Even should it not succeed in carrying every read along the path of inquiry or speculation which it prepage it is attentively. Even should it not succeed in carrying every reader along the path of inquiry or speculation which it pursues, it is sure to convey high suggestions to the thoughtful mind, and can claim to demand for the subject of "health" a finer recog-nition than that of the mere manual of the apothecary, or the treatise of the dictitian or the physiologist.

England's Day: a War-Saga, commended to Gortschakoff, Grant, and Bismarck; and dedicated to the British Navy. London: Strahan and Co.

Folly provokes follies; blustering begets blustering; and undue depreciation excites to unstinted, if not offensive, self-assertion. Many people abroad, and some at home, have lately occupied themselves much in proving—to themselves—that England is on the wane, has had her day, and is about to be effaced. Here in this war-saga we have a trumpet-tongued but somewhat coarse rejoinder, the tone of which proves the truth of the words with which we opened this short notice. This is the style in which the author addresses the supposed enemies of England: the author addresses the supposed enemies of England:

Russian, Yankee, and Prussian,
Wherever you be,
That stand by the shores of our sea
And shake your fists over,
This is the Castle of Dover, You knaves!
And yon's the flag unfurl'd.
That shall flog you over the waves
Of the world.

What are you trying to say,
You knaves?
. Mention whatever you want;
And if you can show us 'tis good for you,
We're just the people to grant.
Should you like, for instance, a drubbing or two,
We'll take notther fees nor thanks,
But do you the very best we can do;
Ay! and do it aboard your own planks,
And ask you nothing for coming!
Hooray! Woo-hoop! Cock-a-doodle-doo! There! We are quite
out of breath shouting applause: and can only manage to add

out of breath shouting applause; and can only manage to add that the spirit displayed in these lines speaks for itself; no comment is needed.

The Angler's Diary and Fisherman's Guide to the Rivers and Lakes of the World; to which are added Forms for Registering the Fish Taken during the Year. By J. E. B. C. London: Horace Cox.

Horace Cox.

We do not know whether it be a feeling of modesty, in the presence of the vastness of his subject, that has induced the compiler of this book to favour us with his initials only; but this may well be, seeing that his information ranges over the whole of the old four great divisions of the globe—Africa, America, Asia, Europe—and, we suppose, omits the fifth, Australasia, solely because it is as yet comparatively unknown to piscatorial fame. While, however, our author goes far afield, he devotes the larger portion of his space to the angling-grounds of England; and we darcesay his directions will be useful to the disciples of the (to our mind, being no fisher) most ungentle craft. Our notions on that point, however, are neither here nor there; and as the angling season is now approaching, we here nor there; and as the angling season is now approaching, we doubt not that "The Angler's and Fisherman's Guide for 1871" must be welcome to many persons on stream-whipping excursions bent.

The Emigrants' Guide to the Colonies of Great Britain. London Cassell, Petter, and Galpin.

As the season for emigrating is also at hand, this other "Guide" As the season for emigrating is also at hand, this other "Guido" will, doubtless, be welcome to other orders of wanderers, whose circumstances and aims are of a much more serious character than those which prompt the movements of the angler, though they, too, may be regarded as fishers about to cast their lines on the great stream of fortune, in the hope of catching new homes in new lands, but among kindred people and under familiar laws. All such will find this book, price only sixpence, replete with "useful knowledge," concerning the capabilities, attractions, and so forth, of the British colonies.

THE REORGANISATION OF THE TELEGRAPHS.

THE British public has, up to the present moment, bardly any idea of the change which has been effected in the transference of the teleof the change which has been effected in the transference of the telegraphic system of the country from the companies to the Post Office. They are vaguely aware that a great improvement has been effected, and they realise the change in the lowered and uniform tariff; in the greatly increased number of telegraph stations in London and the large towns; and in the much lengthened list of places to and from which telegraphs may be sent. The uniform rate of a shilling for twenty words doubled the cost of local telegrams in London, but greatly reduced the charges to all other parts of the kingdom. Under the rule of the companies it was rarely possible to reckon beforehand the cost of telegraphing. Each company held itself responsible only for the transmission of the message over its own lines, and a telegram to a small or remote place was almost sure to pass over the lines of more than one company. The three great commercial undertakings which company. The three great commercial undertakings which divided the kingdom between them, and at many points competed with each other, were supplemented by twenty-five branch lines, and each branch had its own special tariff for a message. Thus, a message from London to Granton cost 3s.: 2s. for the four hundred miles to Edinburgh, Granton cost 3s.: 2s. for the four hundred miles to Edinburgh, and 1s. for the four miles from Edinburgh to Granton. The charge from London to Bournemouth was also 3s.: 1s. from London to Poole, and 2s. for the seven miles from Poole to Bournemouth. There were 475 telegraph stations at which these extra charges were incurred, in addition to 460 railway stations at which a charge of 6d, was levied as the station-master's fee. Messages to Ireland varied in cost, for the twenty words, from 3s. to 6s.; the charge to the Isle of Man was 4s. 6d.; to the Channel Islands it was 6s. 8d. for a London message, and 7s. 8d. for a provincial message. These charges were sage, and 7s. 8d. for a provincial message. These charges were not only large and unequal, but difficult to reckon. They were sometimes levied partly on the sender of the message and partly on the receiver, and time and trouble were wasted by the clerks in calculating them. The uniform rate is, therefore, not only a great money saving, but a great saving in trouble. Every sender of a message sees at a glance what it will cost, and the receiver knows in a moment whether he has any delivery-fee to pay, and how much. Mr. Scudamore, we are glad to see, still regards even the uniform shilling rate as needlessly high. He adheres to his opinion "that a sixpenny rate for messages of ten words is that which will at no very distant date be found best for this country." By the "no very distant date" Mr. Scudamore means the time when the whole telegraph system shall have been got into easy, efficient, and uniform working.

The first thing Mr. Scudamore had to do when the telegraphs

were taken over was to consolidate and extend them. There were

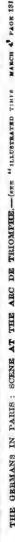
rate offices, and those offices were generally within a few yard each other. There were 486 towns in which the only telegraph was at the railway station, and in 342 of those towns the station was quite outside the town limits. In the largest towns tele-graph offices were generally in the centre; they have now been distributed more equally over the whole area; while nearly all the small towns have now an office in the very centre of the population. But it is in London that the greatest extension of distributed more equally over the whole area; while hearly all the small towns have now an office in the very centre of the population. But it is in London that the greatest extension of telegraphs has taken place. The local systems established in other large towns have not yet created a local traffic, but serve only as feeders to the main lines; whereas in London the local messages amount to twenty per cent of the whole, or 5000 messages a week. The telegraph system of London is, in fact, almost complete. There are 334 telegraph offices in the metropolis, scattered pretty equally over the whole metropolitan area. Of these offices 115 are in direct communication with the central office in Telegraph-street. That central office is, like the Post Office, a great gathering and forwarding department. It is clear that the messages cannot be telegraphed direct from the local offices to all parts of the country, they must be gathered to a central office, to which all the provincial and foreign lines converge, and sent thence to their destinations. The companies soon found that much time was wasted in this needful concentration of messages, as the London local offices had to telegraph each message to the central station as it was handed in, and the clerks at the central office had to read it off and telegraph it on. Something quicker than even the telegraph was needful, and it was found in the pneumatic tube, the use of which has been greatly extended since the transfer to the Post Office. These tubes are laid along under the pavement, the largest of them is 3 io. in diameter, but most of them are only 2½ in., and the smallest ½ in. In the tube is a small tubular box, or carrier, capable of holding from eight to twenty messages. This carrier is either blown or sucked along, and travels with wonderful case and certainty. As the messages come in—say at the office in Fenchurch-street—they are sent off every few minutes in a roll of twenty to Telegraph-street, and pass over the intermediate distance of 986 yards in one minu a double tube is at work connecting the office with the General Post Office. This line was extended not long since to the office Post Office. This line was extended not long since to the office in Fleet-street, near Temple Bar; and the carrier with its roll of messages flies thence to Telegraph-street, a distance of more than two thousand yards, in three minutes by pressure, and five by vacuum only. This tube is very shortly to be extended to Charing-cross, and thence Mr. Scudamore hopes eventually to push on to the House of Commons. We believe, too, that a tube is being laid down, or has just been completed, under the pavement of Holborn to connect the west central district-office with the Post Office and the head office farther east. Similar pneumatic tubes have been laid down, and are in active operation in Liverpool, Manchester, Birmingham, and Glasgow, and three are now being laid in Dublin. The immense value of this pneumatic system in economising time and labour is well illustrated by the tube to Temple Bar, which, though it is not yet working at its full power, is doing work which formerly fully occupied six wires and twelve clerks. If the extension to Charingcross be successful (which there is no reason to doubt), it will do the work of twelve more clerks.

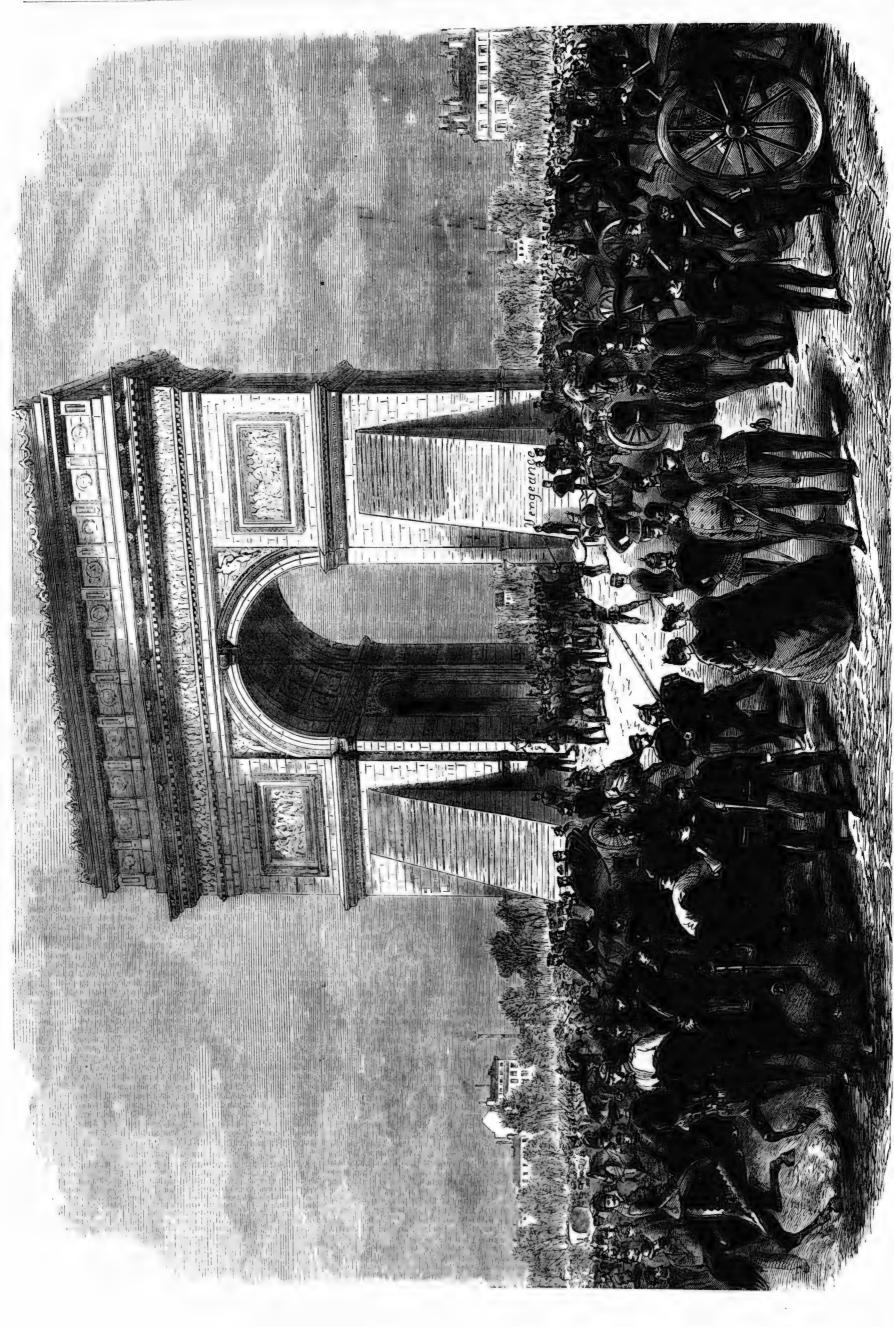
the work of twelve more clerks.

A large part of Mr. Scudamore's report is taken up with the difficulties which arose from the sudden consolidation and extension of the business when it came under Post-Office management.

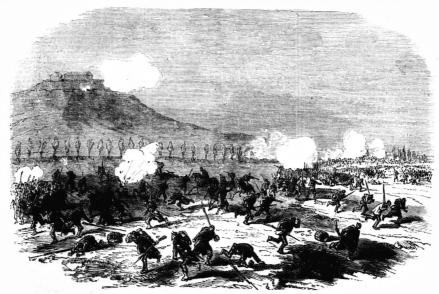
The mere amalgamation into one force of the rival staffs was a The mere amalgamation into one force of the rival staffs was a work of time; while the change from the customs of commercial companies which cultivated the business which paid best, to that of a great Government department which worked for the public benefit, was a most difficult revolution. Another great change was the separation of the commercial system of wires from that used for merely railway purposes—a change which involved the supply of some 5000 or 6000 miles of wire, and fresh instruments for the railway work. Besides this extension there were the extensions on all hands to neglected towns and to suburbs of large towns, and all these lines were new feedlers to the main lines which towns, and all these lines were new feeders to the main lines which were already blocked by the fast-increasing number of messages. These difficulties have been gradually surmounted; and the complaints of the public, which, of course, are more freely directed against a Government department than against private companies, now amount to about one complaint to every 600 messages. About one half of these complaints are for errors which arise on lines beyond the control of the Post Office. Mr Scudamore arise on lines beyond the control of the Post Office. Mr Scudumore takes a quiet revenge on one complainant by telling his story. "I pointed out to him that in six out of seven cases the fault had occurred after or before the message left or reached the Government lines. In acknowledging my letter he expressed a hope that Parliament would put an end to such crying abuses as soon as it met." Of course, the instruments do not always work perfectly, and messages are sent in such curious language that there is sometimes no clue to a very silly, and, to the sender of the message, a very obvious mistake. A gentleman telegraphed from London to his brother in the country to send a hack to the station. The signal for h is four dots, the instrument made three dots, which stand for s. When the gentleman got to the station he found that his wondering brother had sent him a sack. Now, if instead of hack he had used the word horse, the telegraph clerk would have seen at once that the s was wrong, and the mistake would have been corrected. A firm in London telegraphed, "Send rails ten foot lengths." The signals for t and c are a dash and a dot, but the instrument made two dots, the graphed, "Send rails ten foot lengths." The signals for t and c are a dash and a dot, but the instrument made two dots, the signal for i; so the message was delivered, "Send rails in foot lengths." Here again, if the firm in writing their telegram had written it grammatically, and had not foolishly omitted the word "in," the mistake would have been detected and corrected. Still, Mr. Scudamore confesses that "we do too frequently commit most annoying and irritating blunders." Telegraph clerks are, like other people, apt to be careless, and in their case there is less chance of correcting a blunder. On the whole, the transfer of the telegraphs to the Post Office has worked well. The additional convenience given to the public by the opening of the post-offices convenience given to the public by the opening of the post-offices as telegraph stations is singularly illustrated by the fact that, though 1820 offices are at railway stations and 1960 at the postal receiving-houses, the former only receive 9 per cent and the latter 91 per cent of the messages sent. The old system was, perhaps, the most convenient to a few great commercial centres; the new system is equally convenient to the universal public, making the telegraph a social necessity.—Daily News. It is fast

A SENSIBLE CONSERVATIVE.—Sir C. B. Adderley, M.P. for North Starfordshire, was among the speakers at a Conservative "demonstration" held on Monday night at Hanley. He said that reform of Parliament held removed a great many causes of strife, and had led to representatives in Parliament taking a more rational view of a great many public questions. The Education Bill was an instance in point. Proceeding to refer to the Army Regulation Bill, he contended that abolition of purchase would not lead to the deterioration of officers either as regarded their rank or professional ability. So far from that, he considered that officers would be drawn from the class that they were now drawn from, but that fewer would enter the Army for a short time for the purpose of amissment, and that they would rather look on the Army as the business of their lives, and, like the Prussian officers, make themselves masters of the art of war. After speaking in favourable terms of the Local Taxation Bill and the Local Government Bill introduced by Mr. Gozchen, Sir C. Adderley concluded by saying that while the Liberal party aimed at maintaining some political dogms, the principle of the Conservative party was rather an appreciation of where the interests of the country lay. As popular power advanced from time to time, they were not to fancy that that was revolution, because so long as popular power was advanced in conjunction with intelligence and education, the more was the country strengthened, and all good institutions were rendered safer.









THE CIVIL WAR IN FRANCE: FIGHTING IN FRONT OF MONT VALERIEN.

THE CIVIL WAR IN FRANCE.

Sours of our illustrations of recent events in and near Paris call for no comment, the includent potentys, of cothers accept similar, for no comment, the includent potentys, of cothers accept aminar, calculation of the Communs at the Hood de Ville—the bursting of classical or the Communs at the Hood de Ville—the bursting of the control of the Communs at the Hood de Ville—the bursting of the Hood de Ville—the Hood de Vi

attended by his secort. The sketch for the first of these two III learntnions was taken on the joccasion of the grand sortice in force made by the Communits National Guards when they intended to march upon Versallies and crept the Assembly and the Government. One portion of the Nationals passed in front of Mont not to present the constant of the Nationals passed in front of Mont to pass, then opened first apon their ranks, and out them in two: one division proceeding on their way for a time, while the broken fragments of the other made haste to regard the city. The expedition of course failed, while mother, led by Flournes (who was illied), met with no better secoses. Our other Illisation for the contractions of the contractions of the contractions of the contraction of the contrac

n a common cab, which must have been "re" alistioned," and reprilitely augment exercised by the "requested new," for sorry mided is the nag that draws the vehicle. "Dark horse must surely need to the nage that draws the vehicle. "Dark horse must surely need to be the nage of the



A MEMBER OF THE PARIS COMMUNE AND HIS ESCORT.

MUSIC.

MUSIC.

MR. MAPLESON began his season at Drury-Lane Theatre, on Saturday last, with a performance of "Lucrezia Borgia," which would call for little notice under other circumstances. Malle. Titiens impersonated the terrible Duchess as she has so often done before—that is to say, in a manner no living artist could equal; and Madame Trebelli-Bettini was once more the Maffeo Orsini, with which every opera-goer is pleasantly familiar. Such superlative excellence as marked the performance was confined to these ladies; Signor Vizzani, though an improving artist, being still unequal to the part of Gennaro; and Signor Foli, though delivering the music of Alfonzo in good style, being dramatically weak. There was, however, much excellence, short of the highest degree. The stage ensemble proved more satisfactory than usual in these days of "stars," Mr. Mapleson having secured efficient secondary performers and a good chorus. The orchestra, selected and conducted by Sir Michael Costa, elicited a unanimous verdict of approval; and there can be little doubt that, during the season, ducted by Sir Michael Costa, elicited a unanimous verdict of approval; and there can be little doubt that, during the seasor, those amateurs who specially regard that important branch of an operatic establishment will have good cause for satisfaction. It is wellnigh superfluous to say that all the old public favourites who appeared were warmly greeted, Mdlle. Titiens and Sir M. Costa coming in for a special demonstration.

Madame Adelina Patti's restrict at the Royal Italian Opera,

Madame Adelina Patti's rentrée at the Royal Italian Opera, last Saturday night, was a brilliant success, the house being crowded, and the enthusiasm great. Rarely has the prima dona had a more demonstrative reception than that given her as she appeared wearing the pretty peasant's dress of Amina in Bellini's "Sonnambula." The cheering, to use a reporter's phrase, was "again and again renewed," and made necessary a lengthy pause in the progress of the opera. Madame Patti did her very best by way of return for this show of public favour; and what her best is need not be described here. Saffice it to say, that she acted with all the naturalness and power which for ten seasons have kept her prominent among dramatic artists, and that she sang better, if possible, than ever. What "ovations" she received in the course of the evening those who know the procedure incidental to a Patti first-night may imagine. Lisa had a tolerably good representative in Mdlle. Madigan; but Signor Mongini is scarcely adapted to be a good Elvina. He shouts too much, is rough and coarse, first-night may imagine. Lisa had a tolerably good representative in Mdlle. Madigan; but Signor Mongini is scarcely adapted to be a good Elvina. He shouts too much, is rough and coarse, and always ready to tear a passion to tatters on the smallest provocation. There are parts in which Signor Mongini's irrepressible energy does wonders, but among them is not included that of the sentimental and love-lorn Swiss peasant. Signor Bagagiolo sang well as the Count, and the general performance of the opera gave satisfaction. "Faust" was repeated on Monday night, with Madame Lucca in the character of Marguerite; and on Tuesday Madame Patti made her second appearance as Elvira in "I Puritani." Her singing of Bellini's well-known and pretty melodies was simply perfect, whether she essayed the pathetic or the joyous. In fact, Madame Patti asserted her command over all shades of expression not less than over all difficulties of execution. The character is notoriously an exacting one to play, because of the danger of exaggeration in those long scenes where insanity, or the most highly-wrought emotion short of it, has to be assumed. But Madame Patti is always on the safe side of exaggeration, though it might be urged, not without reason, that her representation of keen feeling is barely artful enough to conceal art. Signor Mongini was again Madame Patti's playmate; and again he declaimed lustily, and with much effort. Moreover, he persisted in the use of embellishments which the music does not need, and often introduced them precisely where they were adapted to work the most mischief. How long must it continue to be said of this gentleman, "Vox, et præterea nihil?" Signor Cotognias Ricciardo, and Signor Capponi as Giorgio, rendered good service, singing the famous and noisy duet "Suona la tromba" with all needful strength of lungs, and winning for it an encore. The band and chorus did well throughout the evening.

There was a small attendance at the Crystal Palace concert of last Saturday, although no less a work than Schuber

There was a small attendance at the Crystal Take content of last Saturday, although no less a work than Schubert's ninth symphony was played for the first time this season. We may be sure, however, that the majority present were real amateurs attracted by music which for interest and beauty is surpassed in very few cases. A novelty in the programme was Chopin's pianoforte concess. cases. A noverty in the programme was Chopin's planoforte concerto in F minor, which ingenious and striking composition was very well played by Mr. Dannreuther. Mozart's overture to "Die Entführung" and Auber's prelude to "Marco Spada" respectively began and ended the concert; and several airs were sung by Madame de Gourieff, Mdlle. Englecril, and Signor Delle Sedie. The performance of to-day (Saturday) closes the

At the Royal Albert Hall, on Wednesday evening, some 5000 persons were attracted by the second concert of the series now being given at the instance of the Society of Arts. The programme included four overtures—those to "Ruy Blas," "Semiramide" (encored), "The Ruler of the Spirits," and "Zamaa;" ramide" (encored), "The Ruler of the Spirits," and "Zamna;" the allegretto from Beethoven's seventh symphony; two duets, and as many songs, sung by Mdlles. Carolo and Euriquez; and—mirabile dictu—Handel's "O ruddier than the cherry," played as a solo on the ophicleide, by Mr. Hughes. It is clear that there is not much to be said of an entertainment so commonplace; though, perhaps, a good deal of disappointment might be felt by those who, with the Society of Arts as concert-giver, anticipated a "feast of fat things." The society appears bent upon making its programmes from stock pieces which have been heard so often that there is nothing more to learn from them. Is it thus that the Albert Hall means to discharge its mission of refinement and culture? We might add here that on Wednesday night, as at the performance of "Elijah" on the Friday previous, the reverberaperformance of "Elijah" on the Friday previous, the reverbera-tion of the building was a serious drawback to enjoyment. Clearly, a good deal has to be done to make the Royal Albert Hall performance of

fit for concert purposes.

Other concerts of the week have been that given by Mr. Leslie on Monday—a programme of songs and glees; and the oratoric concert—"Israel in Egypt"—on Wednesday. Both took place n St. James's Hall.

THE POLYNESIAN SLAVE TRADE.—A deputation representing the Aborigines Protection and the Anti-Slavery Societies, on Monday, waited upon the Marquis of Normanby, the new Governor of Queensland, asking his Lordship to use his influence to extinguish the traffic between that colony and the islands of the Pacific, which was described as being little better than the slave trade. Amongst the speakers were Mr. T. Hughes, M.P.; Mr. C. Buxton, M.P.; Mr. Eastwick, M.P.; and Mr. P. A. Taylor, M.P. Lord Normanby said that while he did not think it possible to effect a total abolition of Polynesian labour, he would never sanction anything approach ing to the slave trade. He thought that under sufficient safeguards the emigration might be of material benefit to the islanders themselves, as well as to the colony of Queensland.

emigration might be of material benefit to the islanders themselves, as well as to the colony of Queensland.

Vaccination in Scotland.—The Registrar-General is this year again able to render a good report of the operation of the Vaccination Act, passed seven years ago. Of the children whose births in Scotland were registered in the year 1869, and who survived till they could be vaccinated, 96 027 per cent were successfully vaccinated; 0.935 per cent had their vaccination postponed; 0.355 were found to be insusceptible of vaccination, from constitutional insusceptibility, from having had smallpox, or from having been previously vaccinated; while 2.683 per cent were lost sight of by the registrars from having removed from the district previous to being vaccina ed, or being otherwise not accounted for. Dr. Stark remarks that it would tend greatly to reduce the proportion of this latter class were the time shortened which the Act at present allows to clapse between the birth of the child and the enforcement of the vaccination under a penalty. At present the Act allows six months, which brings the child to the teething period, when vaccination does not easily succed, and requires often to be postponed. The milgratory habits of the parents of those who escape vaccination altogether make them most dangerous to the community. Ever since the epidemic of 1863-4 the mortality from smallpox in Sootland has declined, so that it was as near as possible extinct in 1868, seeing that only fifteen deaths therefrom occurred. Although it manifested the strongest tendency to break out as an epidemic in 1870, the successful working of the Vaccination Act appears to have almost entirely limited its ravages to those unprotected by vaccination; and, although we cannot yet ascertain the exact numbers who fell viotims to it during that year, we may with confidence assume that the deaths from smallpox in 1870 did net exceed 180, and will probably be found to have been listly above 109.

LONDON WATER.

CONDON WATER.

Professor Frankland, in his report to the Registrar-General on the water supply of the metropolis in the year 1870, states that the eight water companies supplied 479,143 houses, counting uninhabited as well as inhabited, and that the daily supply averaged 104,006,034 gallons, of which more than 85,000,000 gallons were probably used for domestic purposes, or above 25 gallons to each person. The highest temperature of the water as it flowed into the cisterns of consumers was 71·1 deg., reached by the East London Company's water on Aug. 12: at this temperature water tastes mawkish and vapid. While the rest of the companies were delivering river water in July and August, at a temperature of about 68 deg., the Kent Company's deep-well water was but 61 deg. in July, and 59·5 deg. in August. All the companies delivered during the year water containing a conspicuously smaller average proportion of solid impurity than in 1869. The improvement in the case of the river water is mainly attributed to the drought, during which the Thames and the Lee were chiefly supplied by deep springs; in fact, their winter samples contained a large of the river water is mainly attributed. drought, during which the Thames and the Lee were enterly supplied by deep springs; in fact, their winter samples contained a larger proportion of solid impurity in 1870 than in 1869. The average proportion of organic matter, as measured by the organic carbon, was considerably less in 1870 than in the previous year; and this was not merely due to the drought, but the efforts of the companies to deliver better water must have contributed to the improvement, since it is shown even in the winter samples, as a rule. Large storage reservoirs give conportunities to shut out the rule. Large storage reservoirs give opportunities to shut out the rivers when the latter are in flood, and carrying down the scourings of ditches and sewers and the washings of cultivated fields; rivers when the latter are in flood, and carrying adwit the scottings of ditches and sewers and the washings of cultivated fields; and storage in reservoirs before filtration effects a certain amount of purification by subsidence, which renders the subsequent purification by filtration considerably greater. The companies which possess the greatest storage capacity are the East London, New River, and West Middlesex. The degree of purification effected by filtration is proportional to the thickness of the filtering medium and the slowness of the passage of the water. The companies are under strong temptation to save expense by using the smallest quantity of filtering material (Harwich sand costing lbs. per cubic yard), and by providing filter-beds of the smallest area and passing the water through at a rapid rate. The consequence of yielding to this temptation is the delivery of turbid and impure water whenever the rivers happen to be more than usually foul. The companies which possess the most perfect filtering apparatus are the New River, West Middlesex, and Southwark; and last year the Southwark and Vauxhall Company, which had formerly the worst filtering apparatus, took its place wark; and last year the Southwark and Vauxhall Company, which had formerly the worst filtering apparatus, took its place amongst the best London companies in this respect, and it has also increased the capacity of its subsidence reservoirs, but is still susceptible of improvement in this direction. Professor Frankland supplies also a statement of the weight of nitrogen contained in the organic matters found in each sample of water. Organic matters of animal origin are more highly nitrogenous than those of vegetable origin, and therefore the presence of any considerable proportion of organic nitrogen in river waters known, like those of the Thames and Lea, to be polluted by sewage must be regarded as throwing grave suspicion upon their quality. Here, again, slow filtration through large volumes of sand is found very again, slow filtration through large volumes of sand is found very efficacious in diminishing the proportion of the objectionable element, and in this respect the London waters showed a more or less marked improvement in 1870. The improvement in the case of the river waters was greatest in those of the Southwark and Grand Junction Companies, and it is now most needed in the waters of the Lambeth and Chelsea Companies: in smallness of proportion both of organic carbon and organic nitrogen the Kent and New River Companies stand pre-eminent. A table which shows the total weight of combined nitrogen sums up the evidence shows the total weight of combined nitrogen sums up the evidence of past and present pollution of the water by nitrogenous organic matter. A slight diminution was shown both in the Thames and the Lea water in 1870, as compared with 1869; but if the comparison be made between 1868 and 1870, both with very dry and hot summers, 1870 exhibits a considerable increase in total combined nitrogen, from which it may be inferred that more sewage was poured into the Thames and Lea above the companies' intakes in 1870 than in 1868. Another table is given showing the amount of previous sewage or animal contamination. So far as chemical analysis can show, the whole of this had been oxydised and converted into mineral and innocuous compounds when the analyses were made; but there is always a risk that some portion analyses were made: but there is always a risk that some portion may have escaped this decomposition, and may produce disease it those who drink the water. The risk is much greater when the water is from rivers and shallow wells than when it is from deep wells and springs, the filtration downwards through so great a thick-ness of soil being likely to remove all noxious constituents. Pro-fessor Frankland states that while the evidence of this previous fessor Frankland states that while the evidence of this previous contamination in the Thames and Lea waters exposes them to grave suspicion, he regards the same evidence (though greater in amount) in the Kent Company's water as practically of no importance, if access of drainage from the upper strata be rigidly excluded from their deep chalk wells, and since the spring of 1868 his analyses afford no indication of any such soakage into these wells. The causes already described as operating to reduce the amount of combined nitrogen are active in chilerating the evidence. amount of combined nitrogen are active in obliterating the evidence of previous contamination with animal matters. The effect is seen very strikingly in the water delivered by the East London Company, which, being long stored in reservoirs before distribu-tion, frequently has the evidence of its previous sewage or animal contamination entirely obliterated, though this water is originally more contaminated than that of the New River Company. Another table, showing the chlorine found in the waters, tests by its increase the admixture of tidal waters with the contents reservoirs situated below high-water mark; but no such mixture was detected in any of the companies waters in 1870. mean hardness of all the river water delivered in London in 1870 was less than in 1869, but greater than in 1868. Professor Frankland has still to complain of imperfectly filtered water being sometimes delivered, contrary to the Act of 1852. The Grand Junction Company, and still more the Lambeth, require to make further considerable improvements in their subsidence and filtration plant. The Chelsea Company has rather retrograded than advanced, and on two of twelve occasions-last year the water was so muddy as to be entirely unfit for domestic use. In the East London Company's water there is occasional turbidity, believed to be due not so much to imperfect filtration as to foulness of the joints of the mains—a defect which might easily be avoided. In 1870 living organisms were found in the Chelsea, Southwark, Grand Junction, and East London Companies' Waters; but there Grand Junction, and East London Companies' Waters; but there has been a marked improvement in this respect since 1869. Professor Frankland strongly recommends the use of Clark's process for softening water, which has also an effect in purifying it. The chalk, colite, and green sand formations around London, he says, contain abundance of water, enough for the beverage of the population when it shall have doubled, and of unsurpassed purity after being submitted to this simple process. He hopes that one day this vast city will be entirely supplied from these sources of cool, colourless, refreshing, and perfectly safe water. Meantime, the quality of what we have might be greatly improved by this process at a very small charge. A consumer who pays £5 a year would have to pay for the purified water £5 2s. 11d. The vast improvement in its quality would be cheaply purchased by this small payment. Finally, he repeats that, among the towns of this kingdom, London stands nearly alone in its continued adherence to the antiquated and most objectionable system of intermittent supply. He trusts that Parliament will in this Session provide for a constant service. Session provide for a constant service.

MICHAEL TORPEY is at length in the hands of the police. After his wife's acquittal at the February Session of the Central Criminal Court her movements were waitched by Inspector Shore. Although she dressed herself in deep mourning and dyed her hair black, she was traced to a house in the Marylebone-road, where she was soon joined by her bushand; and there Torpey was captured. Some of the diamonds belonging to Messts, London and Ryder were found upon him.

Public attention has been at different times painfully arrested by the evil consequences which follow the prevailing practice of by the evil consequences which follow the prevaling practice of keeping the more potent and poisonous drugs in proximity to, and freely intermingled with, ordinary and more harmless chemicals in the shop and dispensary of the chemist. The two classes of drugs are oftentimes in external appearance so alike that it is only after careful examination that the difference can be detected.

ACCIDENTAL POISONING AND ITS PREVENTION.

This is the case, for instance, with strychnine, morphia, and oxalic acid, on the one hand, and very simple white powders or crystalacid, on the one hand, and very simple write powders or crystal-line substances, as the case may be, on the other. Hence it has happened—and no doubt the same will occur again without the adoption of precautions—that, where the two kinds of drugs are placed together on the shelf, the dispenser has substituted the one for the other, with serious results to those who use the comone for the other, with serious results to those who use the compound medicines; and the obvious remedy is to keep the "poisons" in bottles or vessels, or in a special compartment of the dispensary, or so secured that the attention of the dispenser may be called to the fact whenever he is handling, or about to handle, a very potent remedy. Some time since there was a fair prospect of the adoption of certain regulations by chemists for the ways careful handling of poisons in the dispensary; but we have prospect of the adoption of extrain regardings by the first for the more careful handling of poisons in the dispensary; but we now learn that the opposition which has been raised to them has been learn that the opposition which has been raised to them has been sufficient to induce the council of the Pharmaceutical Society to abandon the attempt to impose the proposed rules upon the members of their society as compulsory. This is a matter very much to be regretted. It cannot for a moment be denied that it was the intention of the Legislature that special regulations was the intention of the Legislature that special regulations on the subject should be made, and public opinion has been expressed in an unmistakable manner and in a similar direction on many occasions. The Pharmacy Act of 1868, which restricted the traffic in poisons to chemists registered under its provisions, intrusted to them the task of providing such methods of security as might be necessary from time to time, and it was rendered penal for any chemist to disregard regulations so made. The Act itself made special provision as to the selling of poisons, requiring for that of the more potent ones the registration of the name of the purchaser and a personal knowledge of him on the part of the seller; but the manner in which such poisons should be kept by the chemist was left to be settled by the Pharmaceutical Society, because it was urged that those who were acquainted with the trade were the most proper persons to frame efficient regulasociety, because it was urged that those who were acquainted with the trade were the most proper persons to frame efficient regulations, and the Pharmacy Act specified that all registered chemists should "conform to such regulations as to the keeping, dispensing, and selling of poisons as may from time to time be prescribed by the Pharmaceutical Society, with the consent of the Privy Council." As matters stand at present every chemist may follow his own inclination in regard to the adoption of precautionary measures in his establishment in the keeping of poisons. He is not compelled to adopt any unless he likes. The council of the Pharmaceutical Society, recognising the onus that rested upon them, prepared a series of practicable regulations easy of application to chemists, and calculated to satisfy the demands of Parliament and the public. These regulations provided that—"1. In the keeping of poisons each bottle, vessel, box, or package containing a poison shall be labelled with the name of the article, and also with some distinctive mark indicating that it is poison. 2. Also in the keeping of poisons, each poison shall be kept on one or other of the following systems, viz.:—

(a) in a bottle or vessel tied over, capped, locked, or otherwise secured in a manner different from that in which bottles or vessels containing ordinary articles are secured in the same warehouse, shon, or discensary; or (d) in a bottle or vessel readily disting containing ordinary articles are secured in the same warehouse, shop, or dispensary; or (b) in a bottle or vessel readily distinguishable by touch from the bottles or vessels in which ordinary guishable by touch from the bottles or vessels in which ordinary articles are kept in the same warehouse, shop, or dispensary; or (c) in a bottle, vessel, box, or package kept in a room or cupboard set apart for dangerous articles. 3. All liniments, embrocations, and lotions containing poison shall be sent out in bottles readily distinguishable by touch from ordinary medicine bottles, and there shall also be affixed to each such bottle (in addition to the name of the article, and to any particular instructions for its use) a label giving notice that the contents of the bottle are not to be label giving notice that the contents of the bottle are not to be taken internally."

Simple, and not oppressive in any way were those suggestions;

Simple, and not oppressive in any way were those suggestions; and, indeed, they were devised upon arrangements voluntarily observed in certain establishments, which have worked well. Two years elapsed, and no progress was made towards their acceptance by chemists. Mr. Simon then wrote to the Pharmaceutical Society, stating expressly that the Lords of the Privy Council regard it as the intention of Parliament that proper regulations of the kind should be made and adopted, and asking what steps had been taken in the matter. In a subsequent lett r he is directed to say that the Privy Council regard regulations as what steps had been taken in the matter. In a subsequent lett r he is directed to say that the Privy Council regard regulations as absolutely necessary, and to request that the society will frame them so that "their Lordships may be able to give their consent to a complete body of regulations (such as the statute contemplates) in regard to the keeping, selling, and dispensing of poisons." The Pharmacy Act, in fact, conferred great privileges on chemists, and, amongst others, that of making for themselves certain regulations in the interests of the public. The Privy Council view the matter in the light of an obligation delegated by Parliament, and no one can question the correctness of this opinion. But at the last meeting of the council of the Pharmaceutical Society, in the face of the duty which that body has, over and over again, acknowledged by large majorities as having been imposed upon their society, and in consequence of "trade" opposition, they decided to present the proposed regulations to the forthcoming meeting of pharmaceutists as recommendations only; and, in fact, have thus broken faith with the public and Parliament. It is not to be supposed that the Privy Council will, after the very definite expression of opinion they have given, be content to eat their own words; and we feel sure that Parliament, which showed itself so ready to deal very stringently with the point in question—if the latter comes before it again for legislation—will not be satisfied with deal very stringently with the point in question—if the latter comes before it again for legislation—will not be satisfied with anything but the most complete restrictions, in which case the anything but the most complete restrictions, in which case the pharmaceutist may have cause to regret that, when he enjoyed the opportunity of making his own terms, he refused to do so. We ask the body of pharmaceutists to look calmly and sensibly at this question. They affirm that the regulations will be burdensome; but there are three plans of the simplest kind, either of which they can follow, and these plans, it is admitted, are in many cases actually carried out in practice. Then where is the hardship of making them compulsory? Everyone admits that poisons ought not to be kept intermingled with harmless that poisons ought not to be kept intermingled with harmles drugs; then what can be less objectionable than the plans of separation proposed? The main argument used against the acceptance of the compulsory regulations—viz., that they are unnecessary now that chemists are better educated, is a very unsound one, since mistakes have occurred in the best establishments and amongst the best educated. All chemists, moreover, are not educated alike, and some time must elapse before this will be the case; indeed, if all were up to the highest standard of acquirements, it would still be a great advantage, and a great safeguard against accident, that every dispenser should be specially reminded of the fact when handling a potent poison, that what he is putting his hand to, or on, contains an article of special character. The public would certainly feel greater confidence if this were the case. At present a certain uneasiness exists on the subject. If the pharmaceutists are wise, they will submit to some slight inconvenience, as their own council some time since recomseparation proposed? The main argument used against the ject. If the pharmaceutists are wise, they will submit to slight inconvenience, as their own council some time since recomslight inconvenience, as their own council some time since recommended them to do, to promote the public safety, for the sake of unanimity, to the general good, and the satisfaction of Government; they will accept such regulations as those proposed to them as proper to be enforced in any well-regulated establishment. The public have declared the necessity, let the chemist acknowledge and perform the duty, and that cheerfully, in return for the great privileges accorded him by the passing of the Pharmacy Act of 1868.—Standard,

THE INTERNATIONAL MARITIME EXHIBITION was opened at Maples on Monday, by the Princes of Piedmont.

CBITUARY.

Lord Plunket.—Lord Plunket died, on Sunsy at his residence in Ireland, in the seventy-eighth year of his age. The deceased Peer, the lighth year of his age. The deceased Peer, the kingdom, second but eldest surviving son of William, first Lord Plunket, celeviting son of William, first Lord Plunket, celeviting son of William, first Lord Plunket, celeviting son of Ireland, but also as one of the most consummate orators of his age, was born in the year 1793. His mother was Catherine, daughter of Mr. John M'Causland, of Strabane, he was called to the Irish Bar in 1817; he was was called to the Irish Bar in 1817; he was was called to the Irish Bar in 1817; he was made a King's Counsel in 1834; and was formerly assistant barrister for the county of Meath. He succeeded to the title upon the death of his eldest brother, the Right Rev. Thomas, second Lord Plunket (who was also Lord Bishop of Tuam), on Oct. 19, 1866. Lord Plunket married, on April 5, 1824, Charlotte, third daughter of the late Right Hon. Charles Kendal Bushe, Chief Justice of the Queen's Bench, Ireland, by whom he has had issue a family of six sons and eight daughters. He is succeeded in the title and estates by his eldest son, the Hon. and Rev. William Conyngham Plunket, Treasurer of St. Patrick's Cathedral, Dublin, who a family of six sons and eight daughters. He is succeeded in the title and estates by his eldest son, the Hon. and Rev. William Conyngham Plunket, Treasurer of St. Patrick's Cathedral, Dublin, who was born on Aug. 26, 1828, and was educated at Cheltenham College, and at Trinity College, Dublin, who now becomes fourth Lord Plunket. His Lordship was for some years chaplain to his uncle, the late Bishop of Tuam, and has held his Cathedral preferment since 1865. He married, on June 11, 1863, Anne Lee, only daughter of the late Sir Benjamin Lee Guinness, of Ashford, in the county of Galway, by whom he has, with other issue, a son, William Conyngham, born on Dec. 11, 1864, and now heir apparent to the title. Out of the four Peers who have borne the title of Lord Plunket, two have been clergymen of the Established Church in Ireland, and one of them a Bishop.

SIR MAZIERE BRADY. - Sir Maziere Brady, SIR MAZIERE BRADY.—Sir Maziere Brady, whose death is announced, was three times Lord Chancellor of Ireland, having previously filled the posts of Solicitor and Attorney-General, and Chief Baron of the Exchequer in that kingdom. He retained the Great Seal of Ireland under the Russell, Aberdeen, and Palmerston Administrations, and the term of his office covered a period of nearly twenty years. When Lord Russell resigned, in July, 1866, Mr. Brady retired on a pension of £4000 a year. He was created a Baronet on Mr. Gladstone's accession to power, in December, 1868. December, 1868.

The Right Hon. J. R. Davison, M.P.—We much regret to announce the death of the Right Hon. John Robert Davison, M.P., the Judge Advocate-General. Mr. Davison left town on Friday week, to visit Mr. St. George Burke, at his residence in Suffolk, and on the following morning was found dead in his bed—as appears, from heart disease. There had been nothing in his previous state of health in the least indicating a death thus awfully sudden. Mr. Davison had for several years a very large practice at the Parliamentary Bar, and at the general election of 1868 was returned for his native city, Durham. The vacancy which occurred in the office of Judge Advocate-General in November last was not filled up for some time, pending the consideration of the question whether the office should be retained as a political appointment; but it was felt that in THE RIGHT HON. J. R. DAVISON, M.P .- We the question whether the office should be retained as a political appointment; but it was felt that in a Session to be especially devoted to Army measures Mr. Cardwell required all the Parliamentary assistance available, and Mr. Davison was created Judge Advocate—a position he has lived to enjoy for just three months. His death will be very deeply regretted by all those at the Bar and in political and official life with whom he was associated, among whom he was greatly liked for his kindly personal qualities and respected for his very great ability.

OMAR PACHA.—Omar Pacha, commander-in-

very great ability.

OMAR PACHA.—Omar Pacha, commander-inchief of the Turkish army, died on Tuesday. The late General was born in 1806, at Plaski, a village in the district of Ogulin, about sixty miles from Fiune, on the Adriatic. He entered the Austrian army, but not liking the service to which he was appointed—that of surveyor of roads and bridges—he deserted, and went to Turkey, where he adouted the Mohammedan religion, and after bridges—he deserted, and went to Turkey, where he adopted the Mohammedan religion, and after a time obtained an appointment in the army. He first distinguished himself in quelling an insurrection in Syria and Albania, and in 1848 was made a Pacha. When the Russian troops invaded the Danubian Principalities in 1853, Omar Pacha was appointed Generalissimo of the Turkish army, and his services in that capacity during the Crimean War are well known. His most important public employment since that time was the subjugation of the insurrection in Crete in 1867. In September, 1865, the Emperor of Austria conferred upon him the grand cross of the Order of Leopold.

prisoner did for him precisely the same which he had done for his predecessor. He did not know whether three or four quarts of "Simpson" were mixed with a barn gallen of milk sold to the customers, or whether one quart was added to one gallon of milk sold to the wholesale trade. He did not know what quantity of "annatto" and burnt sugar was added to the milk. The witness denied being actuated to give hilk. The witness denied being actuated to give the prisoner into custody because he was about to set up in business. He never heard of his intention to go into business. Re-examined: Witness knew nothing about the business until he bought it. He learned the business until he bought it. He learned the business from the prisoner. He left him to mix the right quantity of "Simpson." Witness sent out the best quality of "Simpson." Witness sent out the best quality of "Simpson." Witness sent out the best quality of the Metropolitan Rail-obstructing the officials of the Metropolitan Rail-obstruction, and damaging the sta

consequence of the confusion that followed, the performances were stopped. Police-Constable E 381 was called to remove the defendant. He had been calling upon the actors to "speak up," as he wished to hear "Tom Taylor's history." The constables, who alleged that there was no necessity for the defendant to say "speak up," as every word could be heard, removed him from the theatre and took him to the police station. Mr. Vaughan asked the constable on what charge the defendant was taken, and the officer replied on the charge of annoying the officer replied on the charge of annoying the audience. Mr. Vaughan said that if the defendant created a disturbance and prevented the audience from enjoying the piece, it was the officer's duty to remove him and see that he did not return to the theatre, but not to take him to the police station. The defendant, in answer to the charge, said that not only he, but many others, the police station. The defendant, in answer to the charge, said that not only he, but many others, could not hear what was said on the stage, and he merely requested the actors to "speak up," when he was dragged out of the theatre to the station by the constable, and locked up in a cell until three o'clock in the morning, when his recognisances were accepted. He complained that £5 which was required, and which he offered for bail, the inspector on duty refused to accept until the hour referred to. He (defendant) had given his correct name and address. Mr. Vaughan said he was of opinion that the defendant ought not to have been taken to the station. He therefore discharged him, and requested that the inspector should attend in the course of the afternoon to explain why he did not at once accept the defendant's recognisances. Near the hour for closing the court Police-Sergeant 26 E attended before Mr. Vaughan and said he took the charge. He was quite sure the defendant was sober, but witness understood that he had been remonstrated with several times. He, however, "took the mildest view of the case." Mr. Vaughan said he did not consider that a mild view had been taken of the case. The defendant ought never to have been taken to the station; and he advised the sergeant to be more careful for the future. The sergeant said that there had been some mistake as to the question of bail.

PANING DEAR FOR NEGLECT.—At the Mansion to the question of bail.

PAYING DEAR FOR NEGLECT.—At the Mansion House, on Monday, Mr. Sanuel Instone, described as a gentleman, who had been apprehended on a warrant, appeared before the Lord Mayor to any appeared before the Lord Mayor to any appeared. warrant, appeared before the Lord Mayor to answer a charge of refusing to pay a cab fare. The complainant was William Ewer, a cabdriver. On Saturday, April 8, the defendant hailed him in the Haymarket, and told him to drive to Princesstreet, which he did. After waiting there a considerable time he drove the defendant, at his reject to Panton-street. Haymarket: thence to the the Haymarket, and told him to drive to Princesstreet, which he did. After waiting there a considerable time he drove the defendant, at his request, to Panton-street, Haymarket; thence to the
office of his solicitors in Carey-street, Lincoln'sinn-fields; and thence to the Royal Exchange,
where the defendant said he was going to call
upon his benkers. He left the cab, but presently returned in a hurry and asked to be
driven to Cannon-street. As he was getting
into the cab two gentlemen and a lady
spoke to the defendant, and afterwards took
him away in a private brougham. The cabman applied to him for the payment of his fare,
which was then 4s., and was referred to his
solicitors in Carey-street, with an order in writing
that the amount should be paid. The person to
whom this order was addressed did not happen to
be in, and the driver was told to call on the following Wednesday. He called again on that day,
when the solicitor demurred to paying the
amount, on the ground that the order was not in
the defendant's handwriting, and referred him to
the defendant's house at Acton. The fare had
then increased to 5s. The driver complained of
the hardship of having to go there and declined
to go, preferring to take out a summons. He now
told the Lord Mayor that he had lost much time made a Pacha. When the Russian troops invaded the Danubian Principalities in 1853, Omar Pacha was appointed Generalissimo of the Turkish army, and his services in that capacity during the Crimean War are well known. His most important public employment since that time was the subjugation of the insurrection in Crete in 1867. In September, 1865, the Emperor of Austria conferred upon him the grand cross of the Order of Leopold.

LONDON POLICE COURTS.

MILK AND "SIMPSON."—At Wandsworth, last Saturday, Frederick Villiers Minter was charged with embezzling money belonging to his master, John Hancock, a dairyman, of Priory-grove, South Lambeth. Mr. Humphreys conducted the prosecution, and Mr. Haynes the defence. The prosecutor was cross-examined at some length, and stated that he did not enter in a book the quantity of milk that came from the cows—obly that which was sent out, and the money received. He had a liquid called "Simpson" in his establishment. "Simpson" was water. The prisoner did for him precisely the same which he had done for his predecessor. He did not know whether three or four quarts of "Simpson" was water. The prisoner did for him precisely the same which he had done for his predecessor. He did not know whether three or four quarts of "Simpson" was water. The prisoner did for him precisely the same which he had done for his predecessor. He did not know whether three or four quarts of "Simpson" was water. The prisoner did for him precisely the same which he had one for his predecessor. He did not know whether three or four quarts of "Simpson" was water. The prisoner did for him precisely the same which he had no intention to wrong him. The Lord Mayor told the defendant did not appear to a summons, and, in consequence, a war-rant was issued to compel his attendance. The officer (William Smith) who had executed the warrant said the defendant drove in his own bridged to compell his attendance. The officer (William Smith) who had executed the warrant said the defendant did not attend to so a will have pa

fendant again jumped down and a struggle ensued, in which witness was thrown down and injured, and defendant received a severe blow on his head coming in contact with the metals. With the assistance of the bystanders the prisoner and his companions were dragged on to the platand its companions were dragged on to the plat-form just in time to save their being cut to pieces by a train, and had they been on the metals two minutes earlier a fast through train of empty carriages must have gone over them. His shirt was torn off. Mr. Alexander Cruikshank, of the Indian Civil Service, corroborated the evidence of the last witness. The defendant expressed his regret at what had occurred, and said that, having regret at what had occurred, and said that, having booked to Victoria, and taken the wrong platform, they asked the proper way, and were told to cross the metals. The inspector said it was highly dangerous to do so, as eighteen trains per hour went through the station. Two witnesses were called for the defence, who swore that the inspector told them to cross the line, and then, following, violently assaulted the defendant. Mr. Woolrych said he would not believe them. The prisoner had committed a serious offence, characteristics. prisoner had committed a serious offence, characterised by great violence and recklessness, and the inspector had risked his own life to save that of the defendant. Such a gross case of misconduct the detendant. Such a gross case of miscondar-called for a severe penalty—namely, £4, or two months; and for the damage he would be fined Ss. 6d., or seven days. The money was paid. Patrick Mulcahy, the brother, who was on the metals with the last defendant, was fined 15s. for making a disturbance outside the police station.

THE LONDON GAZETTE.

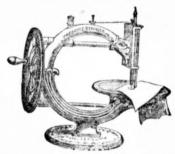
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